TOWN TOPICS®

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Peter Benchley, Author, Advocate Dies at 65

Peter Benchley, the blockbuster novelist who turned his success into a lifelong advocacy of environmental and oceanic causes, died Sunday at his Boudinot Street home in Princeton Borough. He was 65.

The cause was pulmonary fibrosis, a degenerative lung tissue disease.

White known primarily for his long-reigning number-one 1974 best-seller,

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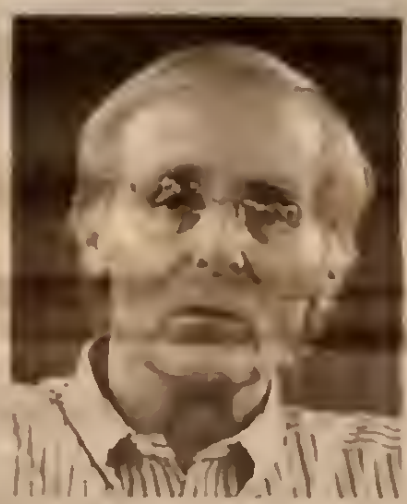

Peter Benchley

'Rollercoaster' Winter Keeps Rolling

Punxsutawney Phil was on the money.

Most people in the Northeast had begun to think the little weather prophet from Pennsylvania was slipping.

Then came the epic nor'easter that dumped 17 inches of snow on Princeton from Saturday through Sunday morning.

Princeton Regional Schools were closed an entire day after the last flake had fallen, but police explained the Monday closure as a means of preventing unnecessary accidents and giving the area time to dig out from under the beautiful burden of another winter wonderland.

Capt. Mark Emann of Princeton Township Police said the closure was a way of keeping cars off the road and was instrumental in getting the thoroughways passable once again.

"It relieves quite a bit of the traffic that's generated by the schools," he said, describing the school closure, which allowed plowers to "do their jobs," as a "good call."

While there were several reports of cars sliding off the roads this weekend, Capt. Emann reported no serious injuries in the Township. The news was even better in the Borough, where Princeton Borough Police Lt. Dennis McManimon said there were no reports of accidents.

"Other than the occasional stuck vehicle or where someone got plowed in with snow, we really didn't have any major events. And that's a good thing," he said.

Lt. McManimon also said that Borough dispatch received "very few calls" because people were staying off the roads. Both he and Capt. Emann credited the timing of the storm, which became more intense in the early hours of Sunday morning. When residents woke to find significant accumulation on their drives and doorsteps, many simply decided to stay home.

So much so, that the Borough decided not to declare a snow emergency, unlike the Township, which declared one at 8:30 Sunday morning, requiring all residents to remove their cars from the street so plows and emergency vehicles could have easier access. The emergency was not lifted until 9:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Because of the significant advance notice of the storm, crews were able to get an early jump on preparing the roads before accumulation began. But Tom Crochet, assistant superintendent of the Township's Public Works Department, said it was a challenge to keep up with the storm, which, at its heaviest early Sunday morning, was falling at

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SNOW BECOMES HIM: Sunday's snow had its moments and this was one. While the plows plowed it and the shovels shoveled it, Albert Einstein gave the white stuff dignity.

Morven Museum Master Plan Slated For State Review in Late Spring

Historic Morven Museum and Garden on Stockton Street, having suffered a setback in December in moving forward with its revised master plan, is getting ready to revisit its proposal for a makeover of the mansion and surrounding garden.

After receiving an initial no-go from the state's Department of Environmental Protection's Historic Sites Council on December 15, former DEP Commissioner Bradley Campbell under then-Gov. Dick Codey granted Morven a continuance in pursuit of its plans.

While the Morven estate, which was used as the governor's mansion from 1945 to 1981, lies in Princeton Borough, it is owned and operated by the state, leaving the 4.5-acre site largely in New Jersey's jurisdiction. Morven intends to build a visitors center and administrative buildings that connect to the current mansion. Additionally, an exhibition space was designed to take the place of the pool house that lies behind the mansion.

Morven representatives are now expected to revisit its master plan before the Historic Sites Council June 10. Mr. Campbell's office outlined several provisions that are contingent on the application's extension.

Representing the New Jersey State Department, officials of the museum's operating entity, Historic Morven Inc., must bring the project to five groups: the National Park Service's Historic Landmarks program, the National Historic Landmarks Stewards Association, the Northeast Regional Office of the National Historic Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation New Jersey, and "most importantly," according to Mr. Campbell's letter to Morven attorney Christopher DeGrezia, the New Jersey Historic Trust, which had contributed $1.17 million to Morven's restoration.

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MOORE STREET SNOW SCENE: The sleds and kids of Moore Street were out to take advantage of Sunday's big snow. (Photo by E.J. Greenblat)

Senior Center Hosts Brown Bag Discussion

This Friday, February 17 at 1 p.m., the Princeton Senior Resource Center will hold a "Brown Bag" discussion, "Senior Sense: Healthy Habits for Older Adults." Barbara Clancy will share tips on healthy eating, activities, and beliefs that contribute to healthy aging. Participants should bring their own lunch. Beverages and desserts will be provided. The event is free but registration is required by calling (609) 924-7108. The Princeton Senior Resource Center is located in the Suzanne Patterson Center.

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Topics In-Brief:
A Community Bulletin

Princeton Borough Council last Tuesday unanimously introduced an ordinance that, if passed at its February 28 hearing, would reduce the number of live trees a homeowner could remove from a property from four to two. The law would also mandate permits for trees with a caliper of 16 inches or greater.

Newly-appointed **Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke** will be in Princeton to deliver his first public address outside the capital since being confirmed by the U.S. Senate. The address, scheduled to take place at Princeton University's Richardson Auditorium on February 24 at 5:30 p.m., is co-sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and the University's Center for Economic Policy Studies. Mr. Bernanke will present the closing keynote address for a conference on government service as part of the Wilson School's year-long 75th anniversary celebration.

Owners of **The Annex Bar and Grill**, the 60-year-old restaurant that has become a subterranean Princeton tradition at 128½ Nassau Street, will transform it into Sotto Ristorante and Lounge. The result of the union of two local families, the Carnevale brothers, who run the Annex, and the Procaccini brothers of La Principessa Ristorante at the Kingston Shopping Center, the new restaurant, set to open in mid-March, will reflect Italian culinary traditions, said John Carnevale. See the February 22 issue of Town Topics for a full story.

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HISTORIC IN ITS OWN RIGHT: This Clover Lane home is part of a 34-home development on Clover and Deer Path lanes that is being considered by the Township's Historic Preservation Commission for historic designation. The 1950s-era modern-style homes are eligible for that distinction now that they have reached the half-century mark. Commissioners said it is unusual to find nearly an entire development from that time that has been well-preserved.

1950s-Era Homes Making History As Aging Abodes Enter Golden Age

Editor's note: Due to a printing error, only a portion of the following report was published in the February 8 issue of Town Topics. What follows is the intended report in full.

Drive, walk, or bike through so many parts of Princeton Borough and Township and you will see the abundance of post-war split-level pre-fabs, Colonial Revivals, and Cape Cods that have come to represent Princeton's housing boom in the second half of the 20th century.

But make your way east down Rollingmead Road, and turn north on Deer Path Lane, and you will find yourself in an otherworldly set of homes: part high-utility, part modern-for-its-time, and, if things turn out favorably for the neighborhood, all historic.

TOPICS *Of the Town*

The subject of an information session conducted January 31 by the Township's Historic Preservation Commission, the proposed designation, the Deer Path and Clover Lane Historic District, points to a nationwide trend as post-war developments hit the 50-year mark and higher.

"I feel that every community in our region seems to be grappling with issues of growth, lack of vacant land, or expansion, and the whole concept of tearing down old buildings for new ones," said David Schure, chairman of the Commission. "It's so important to us here because what's at stake is very dear to people: and that's a sense of place, community values, and what is built as the legacy of different generations."

Mr. Schure added that locally, both the Township and Borough have explored the so-called McMansion problem and increasing density, but said that the towns' plans continue to remain in flux.

Thus, when Deer Path and Clover Lane residents approached the Commission a year ago to discuss possible preservation of their neighborhood, it sparked a dialogue concerning a sample of the community's developmental past.

With one story, a flat-porch roof, two-car "carports" in lieu of a garage, and sliding sash windows, the homes certainly appear different from the norm in today's world: "The modern home was really special at the time," according to Wanda Gunning, chairperson of the Regional Planning Board of Princeton and a local historian. Ms. Gunning pointed out that the primary architect, David Savage, who had a part in the design of the United Nations building, appreciated the fact that people wanted the standard four bedrooms and modern kitchens without a traditional or vernacular house.

"They wanted something that looked contemporary, and this was it," she said. "I think it's amazing that so much of this has survived."

If they have anything to do with preserving the area, the residents would like to see it continue to survive.

Rafael Sharon, of Clover Lane, grew up in the model home at 50 Deer Path, first becoming concerned with the future of the neighborhood when he received notice from the Township's Zoning Board that owners of 92 Clover sought variances for lot size and setbacks—in what would have ended up as a perceived McMansion. But after working with the owners, the homeowners and neighbors arrived at a solution that was more compatible with the rest of the neighborhood.

Continued on Next Page

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1950s-Era Homes

Continued from Page 3

Julie Capozzoli, the Commission's vice chair, echoed Mr. Sharon, saying that as modern-style homes "lose favor in the public eye, we're going to lose the appreciation for these structures.

"And it's unusual to have so many of these homes in this style so well-preserved from this period of time," she said, pointing to that aspect as a significant factor in the Commission's possible awarding the area a historic district designation.

"The architecture is very simple, but harmonious with nature, and they're unique in this area, in that these have a distinct modern style," Ms. Capozzoli added.

The land where these homes are now built was part of the old Princeton Preparatory School. When the school declared bankruptcy in the late 1930s, it was obtained by the Princeton Bank and Trust, and subsequently deeded to Edmund Cook, who headed the Greenlands Corporation. Mr. Cook began developing the Rollingmead neighborhood around 1940, and picked up pace after World War II ended.

Mr. Cook and Mr. Savage, along with developer Herbert Kendall (of Kendall Park), came to an agreement to develop the Deer Path/Clover Lane neighborhood.

Looking to avoid a potential Levittown uniformity, Rollingmead residents pushed forward a "no copycat" house ordinance, but the ordinance was enacted after the Deer Path homes had been approved. But in this case, the uniformity — a bane to some examining typical developments — is what makes this neighborhood special, according to the Commission.

What is less-than-special, however, is a particular covenant in the original deeds for the homes that includes selling to only those of the "Caucasian race."

That restriction has since been removed from the deeds.

Development was booming at the time, Ms. Gunning said, and this was just one area of the former farmlands of Princeton Township that was now housing new residents.

"Riverside was starting, the area all the way to the Gulick Farm was under development," she said, adding that "a lot of the development in Princeton was just selling lots." Additionally, there were several pre-fabricated homes being distributed by the area lumber yards and built on those available lots.

The entire east end of town was booming, with schools being built and the completion of the Princeton Jewish Center, and even the establishment of the Princeton Shopping Center supporting and even complimenting the level of growth.

"It's amazing," Ms. Gunning said. "Princeton just suddenly blossomed."

And now that part of Princeton could be historic—legally speaking, that is.

The Historic Preservation Commission will continue to review the proposal, Mr. Schure said, but did not offer a specific timeline.

—Matthew Hersh

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Superintendent Meets with Parents Concerning PHS Wrestling Program

Supporters of the wrestling program at Princeton High School and of the Princeton Amateur Wrestling Society (PAWS) turned out to attend a meeting of the Facilities Committee of the Board of Education on Friday, February 10. The meeting had been originally scheduled for February 24, but "other scheduling" had forced it to be "moved up," according to Superintendent Judith Wilson.

Tony Marchetta, whose son, Tony Marchetta Jr. was co-captain of the wrestling team prior to graduating from PHS in 2000 and whose son, Louis, is a PHS freshman and a PAWS graduate, learned of schedule change on Thursday, February 9, when he tried to arrange a meeting of a small group of parents with Superintendent Wilson. The group had hoped to meet with her to present their case for a dedicated space for the wrestling program within the high school before the Facilities Committee met to discuss the issue.

"We believe that putting up a wall in the middle of the old gym will satisfy this request," Mr. Marchetta said. "We need a room for health and safety reasons. We need it to be of adequate size so that the entire team can practice together, not in shifts. We need it to be within PHS so that practice can start shortly after the end of classes. Before and after the season, the room may be used for other programs such as aerobics and dance, physical education classes, and other activities such as yoga, baseball batting practice, etc." Mr. Marchetta expressed his concern that the rescheduling of the meeting meant that the needs of the wrestling program were not being fully appreciated by the board.

After the Facilities Committee had met in a closed session, Superintendent Wilson addressed a public meeting attended by some 28 parents and supporters of the wrestling program. "We have done more research and we are looking at all of the options," she said. "As yet no recommendations have been made. We are committed to meeting the needs of the wrestling program: the need for dedicated space, the need for hot showers, the need for good mats that can be left down for the entire season, and for safety."

Listing several criteria that need to be met for the wrestling program, she commented, "We are committed to making sure that whatever space is chosen is a clean and healthy space, with ownership and sense of pride for the wrestlers. We are with you on meeting these goals. No final decision has been made and we are committed to talking with Mr. Marchetta and other parents before the close of February."

After thanking Superintendent Wilson on behalf of the parents, Mr. Marchetta said, "It is good to know that you are looking into these issues. However, location is still a concern. A recent Trenton Times newspaper article seemed to suggest that there was competition with other programs. Programs of longstanding such as the wrestling program should take priority over new programs that do not yet exist."

Competing Interests

Regarding concern among some parents that the wrestling program was being placed in competition with other interests for resources at the high school, Superintendent Wilson suggested that this is "not just a wrestling issue. We need to be mindful of the bigger picture. This is not about one sport over another. There are limitations of space and money."

A representative of the Wellness Committee at the high school spoke about the need to address issues of obesity and to develop programs such as a fitness course for at-risk students.

Parent Fred Cooper thanked committee members for addressing the issue of hot showers at Valley Road but raised the concern that they were looking to create a potentially profit-oriented fitness facility at the high school.

Board President Anne Burns responded by firmly stating: "We are not looking to create a revenue source fitness center at the high school."

As the public session of the Facilities Committee was about to wrap up, committee member Walter Bliss reviewed the options still on the table. "There are three options: the high school, the middle school and a renovated Valley Road space. We would welcome the chance to speak with parents about the wall. The question is which is the best option."

Parents were surprised to hear that Valley Road is still being considered as a site for the PHS wrestling program, given the health and safety concerns that they had presented to the board in January, along with other considerations such as the lack of proximity to the weight room. They repeated their concerns about health and safety at Valley Road and suggested that the board add another criterion to the list of those to be met for the wrestling program: that of site location. Parents and supporters of the wrestling program insist that PHS should be the site.

Committee member Michael Mostoller asked that the parents should not rule out any options: "We don't have all the information about the wall but it looks like it's not worth the fight," he said.

Parents wanted to know why the wall did not seem to be a viable option. "There are significant disadvantages to being off site," said Mr. Cooper. "It would be ideal to situate the wrestling space next to the weight room. Surely the cost of renovating Valley Road with all of its health and safety problems would be more than the cost of putting in a wall in the old gym at the high school."

The meeting ended on an unsatisfactory note for supporters of the wrestling program. They hope to meet with Superintendent Wilson before the end of the month.

This story was compiled by the Town Topics editorial staff.

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Audubon Society Plans Field Trip to Reservoir

The Washington Crossing Audubon Society has announced that it will sponsor a trip to Round Valley Reservoir on Saturday, February 25. Participants will gather at the reservoir boat house at 8:30 a.m.

The Round Valley Reservoir in northern Hunterdon County covers more than 4,000 acres, is more than 180 feet deep, and is a popular recreational site year-round. Winter is a good time to search for bald eagles, various waterfowl, and gulls. It is also a prime time to look for owls which frequently roost or nest in the area. Depending on weather conditions, the trip may be combined with a tour of the adjacent Cushetonk Mountain Nature Preserve or nearby Spruce Run Recreation Area.

The Washington Crossing Audubon Society has approximately 1,400 members, most of them from the five counties of central New Jersey. Its monthly lectures and frequent field trips are free and open to the public.

To reach the boat launch from the Princeton-Pennington area, participants are advised to take Route 31 north past Flemington to Interstate 78 east, and within one mile shift to Route 22 East. From 22 East, exit right at the traffic light at the sign for Round Valley; proceed 0.8 mile to the first left; turn left and then immediately right through the gate and proceed to the boat launch area.

For more information or possible notice of trip cancellation due to weather, call the trip leader Mark Witmer at (609) 730-0826.

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Question of the Week:

"What is your favorite event at the Winter Olympics and why?" (asked at Princeton University's National Girls and Women in Sports Day)

"The snowboard cross because it is a new sport and I think it is going to get a lot of kids who are excited about snowboarding and skiing involved in a new sport."

— *Gina Ochs, Plainsboro*

"The bobsled because it is fast and it looks like a lot of fun if you did it." — *Bryan Brantley, South Brunswick*

"Hockey because it is really fast-paced and I like to watch the countries compete against each other and I am looking forward to seeing the United States go far in the tournament." — *Edward Davis, Lawrenceville*

"Women's figure skating because it is athletic, dynamic, and beautiful." — *Donnica Moore, Far Hills*

"I like hockey because my father coached hockey and my brother played. We are from the Midwest and we are a big ice hockey family and root for the [Chicago] Blackhawks."

— *Gretchen Tonnesen, Senior, Princeton University*

Historic Preservation Commission Signs Off on 'Vision Plan' for Route 206

A plan that aims to slow down traffic along the Route 206 corridor between Cherry Valley Road and Nassau Street continues to undergo municipal examination, this time receiving a warm response from the Historic Preservation Commission.

Presented to large crowds at two hearing and several work sessions last year, the proposal envisions a series of roundabouts to calm down jammed and often hazardous intersections like the one at 206 and Ewing Street.

The result of a $100,000 state grant and the work of a resident-based group, Citizens for a Safer Route 206, the "vision plan," as Planning Director Lee Solow described it, was designed by the planning and consulting firms Glatting Jackson, and Urban Engineers using resident input focusing on particular traffic problems on the corridor.

Last week, the Princeton Township Shade Tree Commission signed off on the plan, seeing nothing that would negatively affect the tree canopy along the roadway, particularly the dense canopy that is a prominent feature of 206 between the small commercial area near the Montgomery border and Clifftown Plaza.

Commissioner Robert von Zumbusch worried about the roundabout system — the first time roundabouts would be used on a state highway. He also worried that because of the volume of traffic on 206, keeping cars and trucks at 25 miles-per-hour might be difficult.

However, one element of the "vision plan" is to encourage the adoption of other traffic-calming methods, including pedestrian islands.

In addition to Ewing Street, other possible roundabout locations include the intersections of Jefferson Road and Nassau Street at Borough Hall.

Of particular concern with residents and municipal officials alike is a proposed freight-to-truck facility in Hillsborough that could produce up to 2,000 trucks a day along 206.

Township Committeeman Bill Hearon said that the state Department of Transportation sees the 206 proposal as a "20-year plan" that would be implemented slowly.

The Regional Planning Board is scheduled to hold a hearing in either March or April that will explore adopting various parts of the 206 concept into the Princeton Community Master Plan, Mr. Solow said.

— Matthew Hersh

Town Topics' CLASSIFIEDS — Where the Deals Are!

THE ART OF THE HEART: Robert Eaton seems to be giving advice to Victoria Zammit at the Arts Council of Princeton's 21st annual Valentine Workshop. Meanwhile Anna Eaton is making a valentine for her mother. Victoria's is for the whole family. The annual event is dedicated to the memory of artist and friend of the Arts Council, Betty Ruth Curtiss. (Photo by J. J. Greenberg)

SENIOR CITIZENS CALENDAR

Wednesday, Feb 15 – Wednesday, Feb 22

Information Provided by Senior Resource Center, 924-7108
SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER (SRC) at Spruce Circle (SC) off Harrison St
Suzanne Patterson Bldg (SPB), Redding Circle (RC); Borough Hall (BH);
Henry F. Pannell Learning Center (HPLC)
Information about resources for the older adult Call 924-7108

Wednesday, Feb 15:
9:15 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
10:30 a.m. Let's Talk; RC.
1:00 p.m. Blood Pressure; SC.
1:00 p.m. Cardio Screening; Elm Court.
1:30 p.m. Let's Talk in English, SC
2:00 p.m. Group Drumming, SPB.
3:00 p.m. Let's Talk Too; SC.
4:45 p.m. Memoir Writing; SC.

Thursday, Feb 16:
9:30 a.m. Yoga; SPB.
10:30 a.m. Let's Talk in English Too!; RC.
1:00 p.m. Art with Hannah; SPB.
2:00 p.m. Internet & E-mail; SPB.

Friday, Feb 17:
9:00 a.m. Tax Help; SPB.
9:15 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
10:45 a.m. Ping-Pong; SPB.
11:00 a.m. Chair Exercise; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Brown Bag: "Senior Sense: Exercise & Nutrition"; SPB.

Monday, Feb 20:
PSRC CLOSED FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY
12:30 p.m. Tax Assistance for Spruce Circle residents only.

Tuesday, Feb 21:
9:00 a.m. Blood Pressure, RC.
10:00 a.m. Art with Bob; SPB.
11:00 a.m. Strength Training; SPB
1:00 p.m. Social Bridge; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Scrabble; SPB.
1:00 p.m. Literature with George Ingenbrandt; SC
1:30 p.m. Computer Lab, SPB.
7:00 p.m. Long Distance Caregiving; SPB

Wednesday, Feb 22:
9:15 a.m. Aerobics; SPB.
10:30 a.m. Let's Talk; RC.
1:30 p.m. Let's Talk in English; SC
2:00 p.m. Group Drumming; SPB.
3:00 p.m. Let's Talk Too; SC.
4:45 p.m. Memoir Writing; SC.

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42	WOMEN'S LUXURY SCOTTISH SWEATERS	$189	$59
342	WOMEN'S WINTER HATS	$10-125	$5-62.50
43	MEN'S HARRIS TWEED SPORTCOATS	$375	$187.50
135	MEN'S COTTON WOOL VIYELLA SHIRTS	$115	$57.50
325	MEN'S WINTER HATS	$10-250	$5-125
147	MEN'S ZIP FRONT CARDIGAN SWEATERS	$225	$49
660	MEN'S/WOMEN'S DISCONTINUED SCARVES	$45	$9.99
13	BABY HAND CRAFTED CRIB FLEECE	$75	$25

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March 2, 9:30-11:00 a.m.: Furniture, From Formal to Funky
March 9, 9:30-11:00 a.m.: Decorative Items and Objets d'Art
March 30, 9:30-11:00 a.m.: Achieving the Look: Period or Eclectic

Cost: $25.00 per session. Includes talk, appraisal, and refreshments.
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A Caregiver's Educational Presentation

"Alzheimer's Disease & Communication: The Keys to Understanding Behaviors"

Speaker: Eileen Doremus, CSW
The Alzheimer's Association

This session will help caregivers identify reasons why a person with dementia may exhibit certain disruptive behaviors. It will provide communication techniques to assist with responding to repetitive actions, aggressive behaviors, recognition difficulties and anxious or agitate feelings.

Thursday, February 16, 2006
6:30pm to 8:00pm

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CALENDAR

Wednesday, February 15

Noon: Drumthwacket Tour. Every Wednesday. Reservation required; call (609) 683-0591.

7:30 p.m.: *A Moon for the Misbegotten*; McCarter Theatre. Also Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 and 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.

8 p.m.: Princeton Country Dancers; Suzanne Patterson Center.

8 p.m.: *Boccatango* with Julio Bocca and Cecilia Figaredo; McCarter Theatre. Also Thursday at 8 p.m.

Thursday, February 16

12:15 p.m.: Westminster at Nassau Recital with keyboardist Gavin Black; Niles Chapel, Nassau Presbyterian Church.

7:30 p.m.: Regional Planning Board of Princeton; Township Municipal Complex.

8 p.m.: *Urinetown*; Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Hightstown. Also Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

8 p.m.: *Waiting for Godot*; Matthews Acting Studio, 185 Nassau Street. Also Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

8 p.m.: *Mrs. Warren's Profession*; Don Evans Black Box Theater, Kendall Hall, The College of New Jersey. Also Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

8 p.m.: *The Vagina Monologues*; Richardson Auditorium.

8 p.m.: *The Servant of Two Masters*; Fine Arts Studio Theater, Fine Arts Center, Rider University, Lawrenceville. Also Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m.

8 p.m.: *Dances from the Garden*; State Theatre, New Brunswick.

8 and 10:30 p.m.: Bill Martin with Dan Davidson; Catch A Rising Star Comedy Club, Hyatt Regency. Also Friday and Saturday at 8 and 10:30 p.m.

Friday, February 17

4:30 p.m.: Talk by Dermot Quinn on *Priests, Parades and Patriots: The Irish in 19th Century New Jersey*; James Stewart Theater, 185 Nassau Street.

7:30 p.m.: Ladysmith Black Mambazo; McCarter Theater.

8 p.m.: Pianist John Hicks; James A. Michener Art Museum, New Hope, Pa.

8 p.m.: Pianist Jennifer Chu; Taplin Auditorium. Free.

8 p.m.: *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*; Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.

8 to 10 p.m.: Dance Improv, Live, Movement Workshop; All Saints' Church.

8 p.m.: *Rose's Dilemma*; Off-Broadstreet Theatre, Hopewell. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

8:15 p.m.: Folk singer-songwriter Tommy Sands; Christ Congregation Church.

Saturday, February 18

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Sharpening the Quill Workshop on fiction writing with author Lauren B. Davis; YWCA Princeton's Bramwell House. To register, call (609) 497-2100, ext. 317.

11 a.m.: Percussion group Exit 9; Roger S. Berlind Theatre.

1 to 5 p.m.: Book Arts Workshop; Arts Council of Princeton's conTEMPORARY Arts Center, Princeton Shopping Center. Registration required.

2 p.m.: U.S. Rep. Rush Holt; Plainsboro Township Municipal Building.

2 and 4 p.m.: *Junie B. Jones*; Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Communtty College.

7 p.m.: Tony Mennella and The Dick Braytenbah Trio; Hopewell Valley Bistro, Hopewell.

8 p.m.: Westminster Conservatory piano and flute recital; Gill Chapel, Rider University, Lawrenceville. Free.

8 p.m.: Princeton University Department of Music and Friends of Music at Princeton student recital; Taplin Auditorium. Free.

Sunday, February 19

2 p.m.: Walking tour of Princeton; Historical Society of Princeton, 158 Nassau Street.

3 p.m.: Benefit dinner for Washington Crossing Association's summer musical programs; General Quarters Restaurant, Ewing.

3 p.m.: Richardson Chamber Players; Richardson Auditorium.

6 p.m.: Nassau at Six Concert Series with The People's Verse Speaking Choir of Witherspoon Presbyterian Church; Nassau Presbyterian Church.

7:30 p.m.: Martina McBride; Sovereign Bank Arena, Trenton.

Monday, February 20
Recycling Pickup

Tuesday, February 21

5:30 p.m.: Princeton Public Library Board of Trustees; Princeton Public Library.

8 p.m.: Hubbard Street Dance Chicago; McCarter Theatre.

8 p.m.: *The Pillowman*; George Street Playhouse, New Brunswick. Also Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m., Sunday at 2 and 7 p.m.

Wednesday, February 22

7:30 p.m.: Township Zoning Board of Adjustment; Township Municipal Complex.

8 p.m.: Princeton Country Dancers; Suzanne Patterson Center.

8 p.m.: Pianist Andras Schiff and Cappella Andrea Barca Chamber Orchestra; McCarter Theatre.

8 p.m.: Uppsala Academy Chamber Choir; Bristol Chapel, Westminster Choir College. Free.

Thursday, February 23

8 p.m.: *Fences*; Theater Intime, Hamilton-Murray Theatre, Murray-Dodge Hall. Also Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

8 p.m.: The Composers' Ensemble at Princeton: The Brentano String Quartet; Taplin Auditorium. Free.

8 p.m.: *Mrs. Warren's Profession*; Don Evans Black Box Theater, Kendall Hall, The College of New Jersey. Also Friday, Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.

8 p.m.: *The Servant of Two Masters*; Fine Arts Studio Theater, Fine Arts Center, Rider University, Lawrenceville. Also Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m.

Robertson v. Princeton Moves Forward With Continued Sparring Over Funds

Two pre-trial motions that were recently made public have been filed with the New Jersey Superior Court in the latest chapter of an ongoing dispute between Princeton University and the Robertson family over control of a $650 million endowment amid claims of financial mismanagement against the University.

The endowment, which supports the Robertson Foundation, fuels a mission to support the University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs to prepare students for careers in government, rather than the private sector.

The foundation was the result of a $35 million gift in 1961 by Charles and Marie Robertson, heirs to the A&P fortune. That amount has since become the aforementioned $650 million.

In the motions, Robertson attorneys have requested that the presiding judge, Nell H. Shuster of the Superior Court, Chancery division, rule that the University and the four University-appointed members on the Robertson Foundation's seven-member board hold "fiduciary duties to the Foundation to use its assets only to advance its mission."

That same motion, a 159-page court filing, also has attorneys for the plaintiffs, William Robertson, Anne Meier, Katherine Ernst, and Robert Halligan, requesting that those four trustees — the defendants in the case — not be protected by the business judgment rule because "Princeton's expenditures of the Foundation's money are 'interested transactions,' and the University-Designated Trustees are not disinterested or independent of Princeton.

In addition to University President Shirley Tilghman, University-designated trustees include John J.F. Sherrerd, Peter Wendell, and Stephen Oxman.

The second motion filed with the court seeks an order granting partial summary judgment concerning $18.6 million of charges "to the foundation that defendants and defendants' own expert witness admit were improper."

The second motion refers to testimony offered by expert witness Michael McGuire of PricewaterhouseCoopers, an analyst hired by the Robertson family to look into "misuses of foundation funds."

Princeton University is preparing a response to the two filings, slated to be filed to the courts March 6.

However, a February 7 post on the University Web site in response to a story printed in the Wall Street Journal the same day said that testimony had been selectively drawn from "more than 215,000 pages of documents, 244 interrogatories, 78 depositions, and some 18 experts' reports that have already been submitted in connection with this case.

"The issues in the lawsuit," the statement went on to say, "involve facts and events spanning more than 45 years."

The University asked the court through a motion filed in January to confirm that that Robertson Foundation's board "properly exercised a power that the court previously ruled the board possesses" to retain PRINCO, a subsidiary of the University, as an additional means of managing the endowment. The University statement points to the first 18 months of PRINCO's involvement with the foundation, where the endowment grew from $531 million to $653 million.

The Robertson family opposed PRINCO's involvement in managing foundation monies— one impetus for the suit. The case is expected to go to trial later this year.

— Matthew Hersh

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Fire Wire

The all-volunteer Princeton Fire Department responded to more than 15 calls between February 5 and February 11. Crews from all three stations responded to activated alarms and gas leaks on Walnut Lane, Edgerstoune Road, Library Place, Morven Place, Nassau Street, Mt. Lucas Road, Cleveland Lane, Witherspoon Street, Clay Street, Washington Road, and Highland Terrace.

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 5, crews from Princeton Hook and Ladder and Mercer Engine Co. #3 responded to a motor vehicle accident off of River road. There was heavy front-end damage to the vehicle, which had struck a tree. Hazardous fluids were contained and the battery cable was cut to prevent ignition.

A CO alarm was set off on Friday afternoon on Clay Street. The residence was metered and ventilated by the fire department.

During the snowfall this past Saturday night into Sunday, the Princeton Fire Department was staffed with crews on stand-by at each of its three companies. During hazardous conditions when volunteer response to the station may be hindered, firefighters are called upon to man the station, assuring a timely response in the event of an emergency.

During the winter months, fire safety is an increased concern due in part to improper alternative heating methods. Be careful when using candles. Keep the flame away from combustible objects and out of the reach of children. Some smoke alarms may be dependent on your home's electrical service and could be inoperative during a power outage. Check to see if your smoke alarm uses a back-up battery and install a new battery at least once a year. Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of your home and tested monthly. Carbon monoxide and furnace backfire calls are highly prevalent this time of year. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that can be fatal. Service your furnace regularly, and be sure your home is protected by both smoke and CO detectors.

The Princeton Fire Department is the oldest continuously serving volunteer fire department in the country. Founded in 1788, it is made up of three fire companies Princeton Hook & Ladder (Harrison Street), Mercer Engine Company #3 (Witherspoon Street), and Princeton Engine Company #1 (Chestnut Street). Last year the fire department responded to 1,000-plus fire and other calls within the community. The department is always looking for more volunteers. If interested, call (609) 497-7645 or (609) 731-1314.

Rescue Report

Early Saturday morning, February 4, the Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad was dispatched with the Princeton Fire Department for a fire behind the wall of a grill in a Palmer Square eatery. The Squad responded with two ambulances, its technical rescue truck and its special services vehicle, as well as providing lighting and SCBA filling services.

Later the same day the Squad responded on Nassau Street for an elderly male who fell on the sidewalk. The patient reported that he'd unsuccessfully attempted to sit on a bench; however, EMS personnel noted the absence of a bench in the nearby vicinity. The patient had lacerations, swelling and bruising to the face and had likely suffered a broken nose. The crew bandaged the wounds and placed the patient on a spinal immobilization device before transporting him to the hospital for further treatment.

On Wednesday, February 8, the Squad responded to a behavioral health care facility for a teenager who stated he might hurt someone. According to relatives on scene, he was tired of waiting to be admitted to the facility when he made the statement, and the staff requested that he be transported to the hospital for psychiatric evaluation. Upon Squad arrival, the patient was calm and in no apparent distress. He cooperated fully and was transported to the hospital without incident.

The Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization. For more information on donating time, money or professional services, visit www.pfars.org or call 609-924-3338.

Police Blotter

On Monday, February 13 at approximately 5 p.m., Joshua A. Bess, 19, of Redding Circle, turned himself in to Township Police in connection with the November 19 robbery of the Mobil gas station in Rocky Hill. He told police he had consulted with his attorney before surrendering himself.

Mr. Bess was taken into custody, charged with robbery, aggravated assault, and possession of a weapon, then released on his own recognizance after posting bail in the amount of $50,000.

A trial date had not been determined at press time.

The November robbery resulted in the immediate arrests of James J. Kornegay, 21, of Leigh Avenue, and Dana A. Swainson, 20, of Ewing Township. Two other accomplices to the crime were seen fleeing from police on foot after their getaway car was stopped in Redding Circle at approximately 3:30 a.m. No property was reported stolen from the Mobil station at the time, although the station attendant, the victim of the crime, reported that he had been struck in the head and kicked on the ground by his four assailants.

An ambulance and a deer collided on February 7 on Lawrenceville Road, causing minor injuries to the driver, Constance Else, and her assistant, Keyona Williams. The accident occurred shortly before 11 a.m., according to Township Police, while the ambulance was travelling at normal, "non-emergency" speed.

The vehicle, a 2003 Ford Van owned by Able Ambulance, sustained significant damage, as the impact of the collision sent the deer through the ambulance's windshield and partially into its patient compartment.

Ms. Williams and Ms. Else were taken to Capital Health Systems at Helene Fuld for treatment of their injuries. The patient was transferred to another ambulance and taken to his original destination, Lawrenceville Rehabilitation.

Karimah A. Grier, 25, of Trenton, was arrested on February 7 for having allegedly presented a stolen or fraudulent check to the PNC Bank on North Harrison Street on October 17. The arrest culminated a three-month investigation by Township Det. Sgt. Scott Porreca, assisted by PNC Bank security officers.

According to police, the accused man used bogus identification when presenting a $969 check from a business in Ewing. He was released after being arraigned on charges of theft by deception. The case was turned over to the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office.

Three large spools of copper electrical wire, valued at $9,000, were reported stolen from a construction site in the 20th block of Thanet Road on February 8. A foreman at the construction site told police that the spools, containing several thousand feet of copper wire, were stolen from an indoor staging area of the building under construction sometime between 4:30 p.m. February 6 and 7:30 a.m. February 7.

HAPPY LANDING: Jana Bernard takes the leap during last week's Girls and Women in Sports Day at Jadwin Gym. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the event, which featured an interactive sports fair. (Photo by George Vogel)

Morven Master Plan

continued from page one

While the Sites Council's initial rejection of Morven's master plan was based in part on an insufficient amount of deliberation time, certain concerns that were raised need to be addressed, Mr. Campbell's letter said.

"The Council was not convinced that two buildings are necessary, or represent an appropriate solution," the letter read, referring to the two areas that were proposed to connect with the current mansion. Mr. Campbell suggested that Morven's planners consider "more fully" a new building in the museum's parking lot, or in the pool house area.

Last week, Martha Wolf, executive director of Morven Museum and Garden, said that Rafael Vinoly, the architect chosen for the museum project, had agreed to meet with the five groups Mr. Campbell outlined. "We're going to look at our site map and discuss how things can be arranged and Mr. Vinoly will be here—we're certainly willing to be here and hear concerns," Ms. Wolf said Tuesday, adding that while Morven's board still endorses its original master plan concept, changes could be made.

Ms. Wolf also made it clear that a residence owned by Morven at 30 Boudinot Street has "never been on the table" and would remain a residence and on the Borough tax rolls. She said that any suggestions that include an off-site solution would be "impossible."

Mr. Campbell's letter also addressed the historic nature of the pool house. The pool house "is an unusual remaining example of 20th century modern architecture in Princeton and was the scene of a great deal of activity" throughout its history while housing, among Stockton family members and governors, General Robert Wood Johnson. But Mr. Campbell stopped short of an outright plea to conserve the pool house, saying that there should be some concerted effort to keep the building, "unless it is necessary to create space for essential administrative/visitor functions."

In the meantime, Ms. Wolf said Morven will not "rush" plans and indicated a desire to "talk to everybody who has expressed an opinion."

—Matthew Hersh

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CLUBS

The **Sierra Club**'s 50PLUS Singles and Sociables group will meet on Thursday, February 16 at 6 p.m. at Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton, for dinner and a comedy film. For dinner reservations, call Chez Alice at (609) 890-6015.

For more information, contact Teresa Stimplel at (609) 918-1149 or at terystimb @hotmail.com.

The **Princeton Chapter No. 459 of AARP, Inc.**, will meet on Friday, February 17 at 1:30 p.m. at the Kingston Presbyterian Church.

In observance of Heart Healthy Month the guest speaker, Gerl Kapiscak, nurse manager of the heart and pulmonary rehabilitation department at the University Medical Center at Princeton, will discuss "Steps to Maintaining a Healthier Heart."

The public is invited.

For more information, call Virginia Wolf, president, at (609) 655-7684.

Princeton Singles has scheduled a movie at Montgomery Shopping Center, followed by dinner at Rodolfo's restaurant, this Saturday, February 18 at 4 p.m. For reservations or information, call (908) 359-5395.

The club has also planned an hour-long canal walk, followed by lunch, on Saturday, February 25. Participants will meet in the parking lot at the Winepress Restaurant in Kingston at 11 a.m. For reservations, call (609) 896-1170.

The **Central Jersey Dance Society** will host a California Mix dance on Saturday, March 4 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton. The event will feature swing, hustle, and night club two-step dance styles.

A rhumba lesson will be offered from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.; the dance will go from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Admission will be $11 for adults, $8 for students.

The Jewish Center of Princeton, 435 Nassau Street, is forming a new Jewish singles group which will hold its first meeting at the Center on Sunday, February 26 at 7:30 p.m. The activities and structure of the group will be planned by those in attendance.

For more information, call Mik Rosenthal at (609) 921-1782.

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32 oz. cream of mushroom soup
32 oz. (2 cans) artichoke hearts
1 lb. crimini mushrooms
2-3 lbs chicken breast
2 cups rice
4 cups water (for rice)
pinch salt (for rice)

Pre-heat oven to 350° F. Wash Chicken and mushrooms. Drain artichoke hearts. Cut mushrooms into pieces. Lay chicken in bottom of large glass baking dish. Layer cut mushrooms and artichoke hearts on top of chicken. Cover contents completely with mushroom soup. Bake for 1-1.5 hours. The longer you bake, the more the flavors infuse.

In a separate pot, add rice, water and pinch of salt. Bring to a boil. Reduce and simmer covered for 20 minutes.

Serve Artichoke Chicken over bed of rice. Enjoy!

More to come... Watch this space weekly for Princeton's favorite recipes... *Provided by Robin Brommer, Town Topics*

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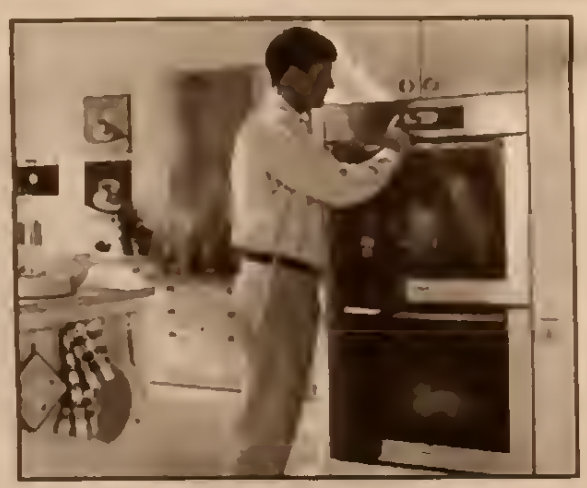
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Weddings and Engagements

Margaret Kosmala and Benjamin Hardt

Kosmala-Hardt. Margaret Candace Kosmala, daughter of Candace Litchfield and Alex Kosmala of Brunswick, Maine, to Benjamin Fulper Hardt, son of William and Julia Hardt of Princeton. The wedding, on September 10, 2005, took place at a family vacation home in Buck's Harbor in South Brooksville, Maine.

The bride and groom are graduates of Brown University, and have both ranked among the top 20 epee fencers nationally since their graduations in 1999 and 2000.

The bride worked for the U.S. Government in Washington, D.C., and Germany from 2000 to 2004, and is now pursuing opportunities in Minneapolis, Minn., where the couple resides.

The bridegroom, who is also a graduate of The Lawrenceville School, was the assistant fencing coach at Princeton University in 2002 and 2003. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Paleo-Climatology in the Department of Geology at the University of Minnesota. His father is the Director of Annual Giving at Princeton, his mother a realtor with Henderson Sotheby's International Realty.

Dana Kearns and Joy Zampini

Kearns-Zampini. Dana Lynn Kearns, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Kearns of Skillman, to Dr. Jay Michael Zampini, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Zampini of Robbinsville. The October 29 wedding took place at St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church in Princeton.

The bride, 26, is a 1998 graduate of Notre Dame High school and a 2003 graduate of St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia. She is currently the executive assistant to the general sales manager of Prudential Fox & Roach, Realtors, at the firm's Devon, Pa. headquarters.

The groom, 30, is a 1993 graduate of Steinert High School and a 1997 graduate of Drew University in Madison. He is also a 2002 graduate of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in North Brunswick. He is currently completing his residency in orthopedic surgery at Drexel College of Medicine, Philadelphia.

The couple will make their home in Boston, Mass., in the spring of 2007, where Dr. Zampini will complete his fellowship in spine surgery at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital at Harvard Medical School.

Engagements

Pak-Feldman. Esther Pak, daughter of Seung and Charlie Pak of Aliso Viejo, Calif., to Aaron Edward Feldman, son of Nancy vandenBerg Green of Princeton and Steven J. Feldman of Manalapan.

The bride-to-be graduated from the University of Southern California with a B.A. in biology. She is currently employed at the University of Southern California.

The groom-to-be graduated from Hightstown High School and from Rutgers University with a B.A. in sociology. He later received his master's degree in social work from the Rutgers School of Social Work. He is currently employed at the WLA Medical Center in Los Angeles.

A June wedding in Orange County, California is planned.

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MAILBOX

Consolidation of Police Departments Would Not Serve Township Taxpayers

To the Editor:

As a resident of Princeton Township for 39 years and the Borough for four years, and as a member of the Borough Police Department for 25 years (from 1961 to 1986), I strongly object to the merging of the two police departments.

I was one of the first two police officers hired from outside Princeton by the Borough Police Department. At that time, we were required to reside in the Borough and were given two years to move into the Borough. Both of us made that move. However, a few years later the requirement was changed to a five mile radius, at which time I was able to purchase a home in Princeton Township, where I still reside.

Prior to my retirement in 1986, I was always proud to be a Princeton Borough police officer. Sadly, today it appears that the current Borough police officers are not as community friendly as the officers of yesteryear. They are not required to live in town and apparently they have no desire to get to know the residents or shop owners personally. In the past, we made it a point to know the residents of both the Borough and the Township. Many of the officers were members of the Fire Department and First Aid Squad.

Presently, many of the Township officers were born and raised in Princeton and are very aware of the problems in Princeton. They do not just put in the required hours of their tour of duty and leave town, but continue to show interest in the welfare of the residents of Princeton Township.

In my estimation as a former police officer of Princeton Borough, the Princeton Township Police Department is dedicated to protecting and serving the residents of Princeton Township.

Township taxpayers cannot afford to let consolidation of the two police departments become a reality.

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With Proper Fencing and Driving Speeds, There's Adequate Room for Deer and Us

To the Editor:

Deer can be good companions if we share the living space. There's really room for all of us, with some fencing help for the plants that can't run, and modified car speeds on roads. We could really do these two things (I have), and both we and the deer could enjoy life more.

Suggestion: put the money into road repair instead.

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A public conference presented by
The James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions and The Department of Religion, Princeton University
The Louis Finkelstein Institute for Religious and Social Studies of The Jewish Theological Seminary

Wednesday, February 22, 2006
8:00 – 9:30 p.m.
"Coming After:" American Jewish Thought in the Light of German Judaism
Leora Batnitzky, *Princeton University*
Martin D. Yaffe, *University of North Texas*
Moderator: Alan Mittleman, *The Jewish Theological Seminary*

Thursday, February 23, 2006
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Covenant and Social Contract: Classical Judaism and Classical Liberalism
David Novak, *University of Toronto*
Kenneth Seeskin, *Northwestern University*
Moderator: Martin Kavka, *Florida State University and Princeton University*

10:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Pragmatism, Philosophical Analysis and Science Influences and Interactions
Michael Morgan, *Indiana University*
Peter Ochs, *University of Virginia*
Norbert Samuelson, *Arizona State University*
Moderator: Neil Gillman, *The Jewish Theological Seminary*

2:15 – 3:00 p.m.
Ethics and Metaphysics: Renewing Traditions of Natural Law
Lenn E. Goodman, *Vanderbilt University*
Moderator: Martha Himmelfarb, *Princeton University*

3:15 – 4:00 p.m.
Assessing the American Jewish Philosophical Renaissance
William A. Galston, *University of Maryland*
Moderator: Robert P. George, *Princeton University*

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PRINCETON

Getting Close to Keats: The Life in His Letters

"A Cemetery of Poets is in Crisis in Rome"—the headline in last Wednesday's New York Times drew my eye immediately away from the story about the violent response to the Danish caricatures of Muhammad ("A Startling New Lesson in the Power of Imagery"). In fact, the power of imagery influenced my reaction to the news that Keats and Shelley's burial place has been added to the World Monument Fund's 2006 Watch List of the 100 most endangered sites on earth.

The imagery I'm referring to was staring me in the face in the form of a post card sketch of Keats's gravestone I've kept close at hand ever since my first visit to that spot. The grave I happened on first was Shelley's, which was engraved with the lines from Shakespeare's *The Tempest*: "Nothing of him that doth fade,/But doth suffer a sea-change/Into something rich and strange." In that cypress-shaded sanctuary, on a late summer afternoon, with the pyramid of Cestius visible over the far wall and no one else around except some gardeners, the moment was memorable enough on its own to be one of the highlights of a first trip to Europe.

But I had not come to pay my respects to Shelley. I was there because of John Keats, who died of consumption at the age of 26, only seven years older than I was at the time. I had come straight to the cemetery from the little room he died in, in a building adjacent to the Spanish Steps in the heart of Rome. I'd never taken a course on the Romantic poets, having discovered Keats on my own among the books in my English professor-father's study. The well-worn edition of the works I'd found there contained a sample of his correspondence. If you've read Keats's letters, a selection of which is available in a new edition (Harvard University Press $19.95), you will probably know what I'm talking about when I say he's more "alive" to me than any other literary figure. If you've read the letters, you'll have been dazzled and delighted by the movement of his mind, and by his wit and charm, his earthiness, and his wild flights of fancy; you'll have also been touched by his warmth and humanity and youthful energy, and amazed by his talent for tossing the seeds for whole books of literary theory over his shoulder as he dashes from subject to subject, effortlessly outclassing the critics who savaged him in the Edinburgh Review. You'll have hiked with him through the Lake District and Scotland, agonized with him as he nursed his dying brother Tom (remembered in the line "Where youth grows pale, and spectre-thin, and dies" in "Ode to a Nightingale"). You'll have suffered through his bittersweet romance with Fanny Brawne and you'll have kept the death watch at his bedside with his friend, the painter Joseph Severn.

Even if you've lived through the poems and the letters with him, even if you know the words of his epitaph, the inscription beneath the lyre engraved on his headstone is no less powerful:

"This Grave contains all that was Mortal of a Young English Poet Who, on his Death Bed, in the Bitterness of his heart, at the Malicious Power of His Enemies, Desired these Words to be engraved on his Tomb Stone

'Here lies One Whose Name was writ in Water.'

Feb. 24th, 1821."

The epitaph is a poem in itself, but then so is his last letter, with its reference to having "an habitual feeling of my real life having past, and that I am leading a posthumous existence," and then the conclusion, "I can scarcely bid you good bye even in a letter. I always made an awkward bow."

Writing Free

In the year 2006 John Keats is arguably the most beloved poet in the English language, and if that "beloved" goes deeper than the formal, perfunctory "beloved" attached to the names of literary icons, it's in large part because the letters have brought him to life in a way poetry cannot. Writing to friends, he can disregard the conventions and restraints of verse. But then the letters offer another sort of poetry. At their best, they have the force and flavor of the same rich English prose spoken by Shakespearean characters like Falstaff and Mercutio and Hamlet because Shakespeare is clearly Keats the letter-writer's primary guide and inspiration. In one letter, he imagines Shakespeare as the "good Genius" presiding over him. In another early letter he echoes Falstaff in a context all too relevant to the terms of his own late: "Banish money—Banish sodas—Banish Wine—Banish Music—But right Jack Health—honest Jack Health, true Jack Health—banish health and banish all the world." Today it might be said that he "channeled" Shakespeare, but it would be closer to the truth to say that Shakespeare lit him up like a bolt of lightning. He doesn't merely quote and paraphrase the Bard, he lives in the language, becoming all the kings and clowns, heroes and heroines, lovers and wits and enlightened fools, all alive in a fierce young poet whose brain is blazing with the fire of the plays and poems.

Rereading the letters in the new Harvard edition, which was released in paperback this past September, it seems even more obvious that Keats was consciously creating another form for himself, an alternative to verse where he could let his fancy fly, expressing his touchingly sociable nature in a lively interplay with his family and friends.

The miracle of Keats is beyond even the miracle of Schubert, who also died young. At 31, the composer was five years older than Keats and crammed a career of great works into a span of ten years. Schubert was born into music, however. Keats was the son of a livery stable manager in East London and he wrote these letters and composed his great works in less than five years. Imagine it: if he'd begun in 2001, he'd have accomplished it all by now.

Here's a sample of "dunkets" (as he sometimes called himself) at his most playful-fanciful, from the conclusion of a truly wild letter to Jane and Marian Reynolds. "But let us refresh ourselves from this depth of thinking and turn to some innocent Jocularity—the Bow cannot always be bent nor the gun always loaded If you ever let it off and the Life of man is like a great Mountain—his breath is like a Shrewsbury Cake—he comes into the world like a Shoeblack and goes out of it like a Cobbler—he eats like a Chimneysweeper, drinks like a Gingerbread Baker, and breathes like Achilles—So it being that we are such sublunary creatures let us endeavor to correct all our bad Spelling all our most delightful Abominations and let us wish health to Marian and Jane whoever they be and wherever."

In a typically loving letter to his sister Fanny encouraging her to write him all her thoughts he reveals the value he invested in letters. "Now, Fanny, you must write soon—and write all you think about, never mind what—only let me have a good deal of your writing—You need not do it all at once—be two or three or four days about it, and let it be a diary of your little life. You will preserve all my Letters and I will secure yours—and thus in the course of time we shall each of us have a good Bundle—which, hereafter, when things may have strangely altered and God knows what happened, we may read over together and look with pleasure on times past—that now are to come."

Admirers of John Keats will understand that the reference to Fanny's "little life" is no more patronizing than the "little town" whose "streets for evermore/Will silent be" in "Ode on a Grecian Urn."

According to an editor's note, Fanny "as an old woman ... said that her letters from *Keats had only once, and then but for a* few days, been out of her possession."

—**Stuart Mitchner**

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60 Years Later:
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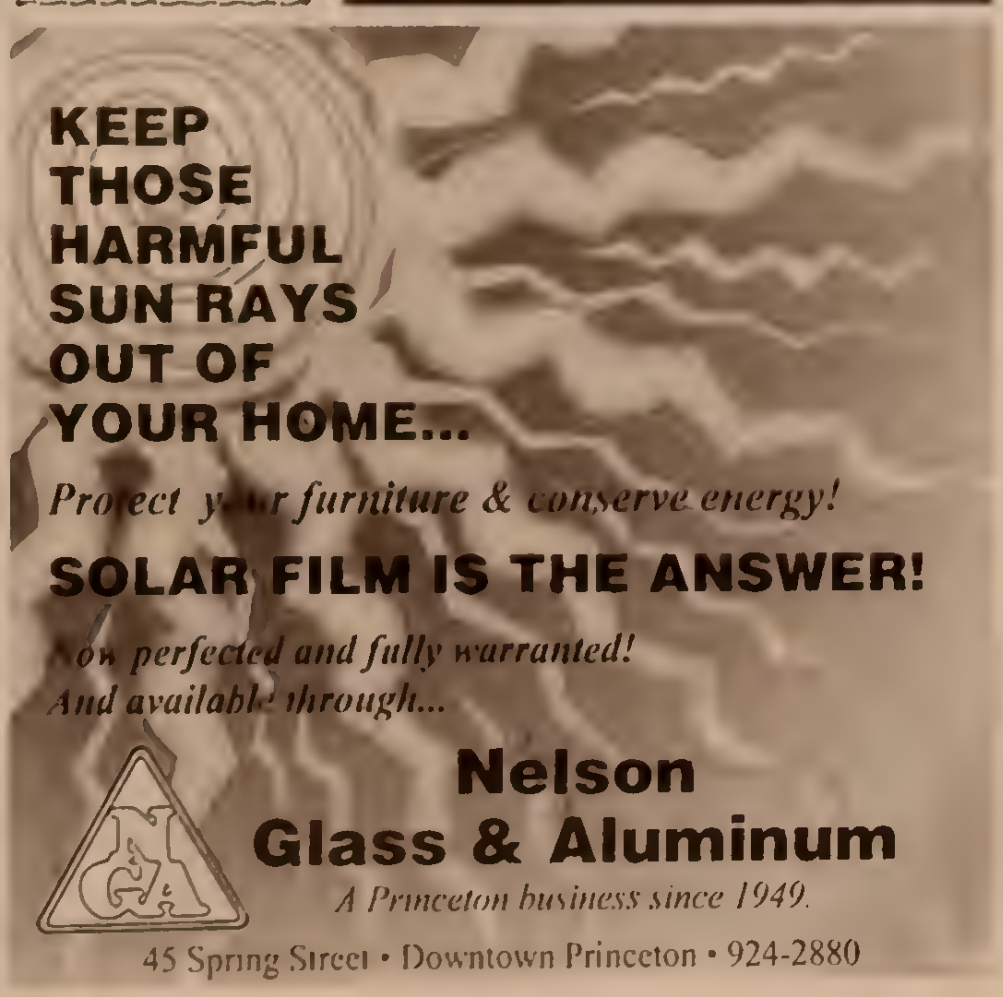
Moderator:
G. John Ikenberry, Princeton University

Panelists:
Aaron L. Friedberg, Princeton University
Stephen M. Kotkin, Princeton University
Melvyn P. Leffler, University of Virginia

Thursday, February 23, 2006
219 Aaron Burr Hall
4:30 p.m.

To read the "Long Telegram," please visit:
www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/coldwar/documents/episode-1/kennan.htm

www.princeton.edu/~piirs



A RAGGED SKY EVENING: An overflow crowd came to the Princeton Public Library's Community Room February 3 for the launch of five books by the Ragged Sky Poets.The poets are (from left): Carlos Hernandez Pena, Arlene Weiner, Elizabeth Anne Socolow, Mimi Danson (front), Ellen Foos, (back).

(Photo by Theodore Weitz)

Book Arts Workshop At the Arts Council

Internationally known book artist Miriam Schaer will be at the Arts Council's conTEMPORARY location at the Princeton Shopping Center on Saturday, February 18 to lead "Introduction to Book Arts," an adult workshop demonstrating how to use artist books as a creative medium. The workshop will take place from 1 to 5 p.m.

Participants will learn to think of books in the broadest sense while making a variety of innovative, simple book structures using everyday items, such as drinking straws and shoelaces. They will learn how to integrate and combine concepts into book structures, looking at and handling examples of artist books from the instructor's personal collection. There will also be a slide talk illustrating the extraordinary range book structures encompass, from ancient scrolls and the earliest medieval books to works by today's most innovative book artists, who are expanding the idea of the book as a medium of personal expression.

No previous experience is necessary and all are welcome. Registration is $75, $60 for members.

The Arts Council's conTEMPORARY location is next to Eckerd in the Princeton Shopping Center. Space is limited, so pre-registration is required. To register or for more information call (609) 924-8777 ext. 105. Also visit our website at www.artscouncilofprinceton.org.

Memoir by Carl A. Fields Launched at Fields Center

Black in Two Worlds: A Personal Perspective on Higher Education, the memoir of Carl A. Fields, the first black administrator at Princeton University, will be launched by Red Hummingbird Press on Saturday, February 18, 2006, at 2 p.m. at the Carl A. Fields Center for Equality and Cultural Understanding, 86 Olden Street in Princeton. The book launch is part of the center's celebration of Black History Month. The two other sponsors of the event are the Association of Black Princeton Alumni and the Princeton Human Services Commission.

The event will include a presentation about the book and author by, among others, Robert F. Goheen, President Emeritus of Princeton University, who hired Fields, and Badi G. Foster, President of the Phelps Stokes Fund, who was a graduate student at the time. Shirley Tilghman, President of Princeton University, will make the opening remarks. Books will be available for sale, and light refreshments will be served.

Black in Two Worlds is written in two parts. In part one, Mr. Fields describes his 1964-1971 tenure at Princeton University as the school's first black administrator, detailing how he involved the local black community with incoming students and how he helped students create the first black student organization on campus. In part two, Fields describes his experiences as the first black American Planning Officer at the fledgling University of Zambia from 1971 to 1974. His accomplishments there included creating a viable budget and restructuring the School of Education.

"The contrasts in these two phases of Carl Fields's life make reading this memoir a particularly interesting and rewarding experience. I commend it to potential readers for this reason, and also because it provides an introduction to an unusually gifted human being whose narrative style is lucid and non-pretentious," observes President Emeritus Goheen in the Foreword. Badi Foster's Afterword puts the memoir into its historical context and summarizes what has happened since then.

Black in Two Worlds (paperback $16) is the first book to be published posthumously by Red Hummingbird Press, which Hanna Fox founded in 2002. The first two books, *Condle in o Dark Time* by Virginia Stuart and *The Sun's Polette: Poems and Tapestries* by Paula Bramsen have been well received by critics. *Black in Two Worlds* will be available locally at Glen Echo Books, Micawber Books, the Princeton University Store, by special order at all bookstores, and directly through Red Hummingbird Press by writing to: P.O. Box 462, Princeton, NJ 08542, or calling (609) 924-0885, or visiting online at www.redhummingbirdpress.com.

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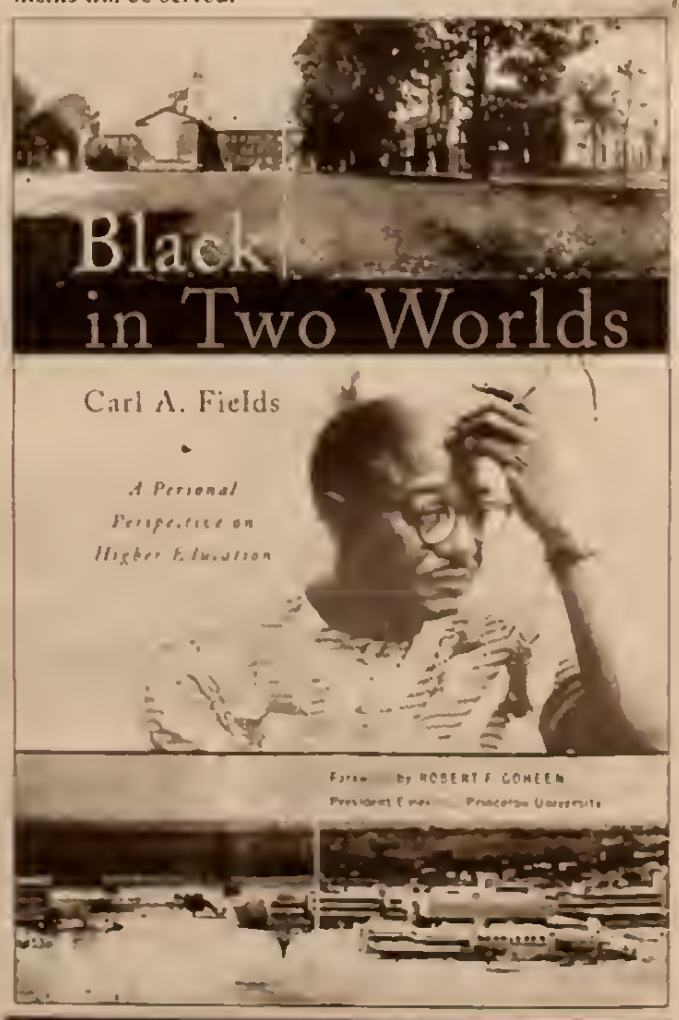

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Winter

continued from page one

four inches an hour.

Conditions on Monday made it clear why schools had been cancelled, since many roads in the Borough and Township still had a layer of hard-packed snow. Public Works crews in both municipalities were relying on sun and above-freezing temperatures Monday and Tuesday to break up the snow.

With temperatures predicted to reach into the 50s by the second half of the week, however, the volume of snowmelt could prove problematic, according to Dr. David Robinson, state climatologist and chair of the geography department at Rutgers.

"It's going to get warm later in the week, and if it's accompanied by rain, we might have flooding concerns," he said, adding that following the warm-up, "It looks like we're going to be back in the ice box again.

"A real rollercoaster ride of a winter continues," Dr. Robinson said.

The snowfall, while significant, did not break into Princeton's top ten storms on record, although up the road in Middlesex County, the storm ranked among several municipalities' top five storms, Dr. Robinson said.

"The big winner was the Route 95/Route 1 Corridor. Quite a powerful nor'easter."

—Matthew Hersh

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• • •

The Yale basketball team was losing to Sacred Heart by one point with two seconds left in the game, so how did it end up winning by five without going into overtime? Here's how. Caleb Holmes nailed a three-pointer with 1.9 seconds on the clock to give Yale a two-point lead. But on the ensuing inbounds pass, Sacred heart was called for stepping over the baseline. Yale inbounded to Eric Flato, who was intentionally fouled. He made the first foul shot and missed the second, but Holmes got the rebound, was fouled and sank both free throws. Yale wins by five with six points in the last 1.9 seconds.

• • •

In this day and age, it's refreshing to hear about a professional athlete like Elton Brand of the NBA's Los Angeles Clippers. Brand memorizes the names of sportswriters from around the country so he can call them by their first names. He goes out of his way to say hello to every ballboy and every usher he sees in every arena. And he signs autographs and gives high fives to fans on a regular basis. Almost as refreshing is that the consistently awful Clippers jumped out to the best start in team history in the 2005-06 season. Players like Brand make the underdog Clippers easy to root for.

• • •

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ART

Rarely Seen Art of Russia's Silver Age Coming to University Art Museum

Artists of the *Mir Iskusstva* ("World of Art") movement, which thrived in Russia around the turn of the twentieth century, are represented in the exhibition "*Mir Iskusstva*: Russia's Age of Elegance," on view at the Princeton University Art Museum from February 25 through June 11.

Drawn from the holdings of the State Russian Museum in St. Petersburg, the works in the exhibition were long suppressed because this last flowering of Russian imperial culture did not conform to the artistic philosophy of the Soviet government. The exhibition is the first opportunity for Americans to see this material, which is now being reevaluated by the Russians.

In contrast to the later doctrines of Socialist Realism imposed by the Soviet Government, it was the motto "art for art's sake" that united the *Mir Iskusstva* artists, who sought to create a Russian art parallel to that of Western Europe. Loosely grouped under the leadership of the editor of the periodical *Mir Iskusstva* and the future ballet impresario Sergei Diaghilev, the movement's artists valued decorative arts and theatrical design as much as painting, sculpture, and architecture. The works seen in art exhibitions and the ballets Diaghilev brought to Paris beginning in 1909 became a revelation to tastemakers and artists of the avant-garde in Western European art.

The exhibition includes over eighty objects in a wide range of media — paintings, sculpture, prints and drawings, book and stage designs, and ceramics. Organized by the Foundation for International Arts and Education, Bethesda, Maryland, the exhibition is presented in conjunction with the State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia, and is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

This exhibition has special ties to Princeton University as it was initiated by two alumni of the Class of 1962: Greg Guroff, president of the Foundation for International Arts and Education, and Tony Evnin, a supporter of the Foundation. Mr. Evnin has a particular interest in the art of this period because his mother, Nina Schick, studied with one of the *Mir Iskusstva* movement's premier painters, Sergei Sudeikin; Mrs. Schick's portrait by her teacher is included in the exhibition, which has inspired an unprecedented number of collaborative events throughout the university and community. Princeton faculty members Ellen Chances, of the Department of Slavic Languages, and Simon Morrison, of the Music Department, contributed essays to the catalogue and will participate in public programs accompanying the exhibition. A course on the material in the exhibition will be taught by Janet Kennedy, a visiting professor from Indiana University and a specialist in studies of the *Mir Iskusstva* artists.

"We are delighted to be the only East Coast venue for the *Mir Iskusstva* exhibition," said PUAM Director Susan M. Taylor. "It provides a remarkable opportunity for our audiences to experience the extraordinary cultural achievements of this movement and an unprecedented occasion for the Princeton museum and its university and community colleagues to collaborate on the many dimensions — historical, cultural, artistic, and literary — that illuminate this richly complex period."

The period from 1890 to 1917 is known as Russia's Silver Age because it succeeded the creative "Golden" era of the poet Alexander Pushkin (1799–1837) — when Russian literature attained the status of a major world literature. At the turn of the twentieth century, St. Petersburg was the political capital of Imperial Russia and the cultural capital for Russian artists, musicians, composers, and authors, as well as the center of the *Mir Iskusstva* movement. Between 1898 and 1905, the movement reached its height as Diaghilev and the painter and stage designer Alexandre Benois organized a series of exhibitions of both Russian art of the past and modern European and Russian masters. The *Mir Iskusstva* artists painted in a variety of styles, ranging from academic to cubist, all of which were welcome in this cosmopolitan movement that celebrated art and beauty.

Subject matter included numerous portraits of the movement's supporters, friends, and the members. Among the portraits in the exhibition are those of Sergei Diaghilev by his friend and colleague Leon Bakst; the poet Anna Akhmatova by Nathan Altman; the dancer and actress Ida Rubinstein by Valentin Serov; the theatrical director Vsyevolod Meyerhold by Boris Grigoriev; and the opera singer Fyodor Chaliapin by Boris Kustodiev. Another favorite subject was St. Petersburg, portrayed at the time of a winter fair by Boris Kustodiev, and again in winter, in a neighborhood of tenements by Mstislav Dobuzhinsky. A Russian country house that serves as the setting for a play by Anton Chekhov is the subject of the painting *In Summer* by Sergei Vinogradov, while Stanislaw Zukowski shows the rebirth of spring flowers on a windowsill, with snow-covered trees still visible outside. The graphic arts are represented by set and costume designs for ballets such as Mikhail Fokine's *Islamey*, a fantasy on an Arabian Nights theme, and operas including Gluck's *Orpheus and Eurydice*. Less familiar than the achievements of Russian ballet and opera are the fanciful book illustrations by such masters as Alexandre Benois, Georgii Narbut, and Elena Polenova.

During the early years of the Russian Revolution, the artists of *Mir Iskusstva* continued to work and present exhibitions, but by 1924 the new Soviet regime had defined its own, repressive rules for art, and from the 1920s through the 1960s, the works of this movement could not be exhibited or studied. Many of the artists went into exile in Western Europe or America; those who stayed in Russia struggled under harsh new conditions.

A fully illustrated 150-page catalogue published by the State Russian Museum and the Foundation for International Arts and Education is available from the Princeton University Art Museum Store for $30. It contains five introductory essays by Russian and American scholars who place the works of art and the *Mir Iskusstva* movement in a historical and cultural context.

A number of lectures, musical performances, and other events related to the exhibition have been scheduled, among them "The World of Art" and Russian Culture, a colloquium that will examine Russia's "World of Art" from, literary, musical, artistic, and international perspectives. It will take place on Friday, February 17, from 1 to 5 p.m., in McCormick 101.

On Friday, February 24, at 8 p.m., Saturday, February 25, at 3:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday, February 26 at 2:00 p.m., the Annual Princeton Dance Festival at the Berlind Theatre will present Vaslav Nijinsky's original *L'Après-midi d'un Faune* with music by Claude Debussy, featuring world premieres by faculty members Rebecca Lazier and Meghan Durham and guest choreographer Gabri Christa, as well as selected student works. Admission is $15 ($10 for students and faculty); to purchase tickets call (609) 258-2787.

Organized by the Foundation for International Arts and Education, Bethesda, Maryland, the exhibition is presented in conjunction with the State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia; it is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities. The exhibition at the Princeton University Art Museum is supported by Anthony, Judy, Luke, and Timothy Evnin, and by major funding from the Peter Jay Sharp Foundation. The opening reception and the educational programs are made possible by the Friends and the Partners of the Princeton University Art Museum.

The Princeton University Art Museum is located in the center of the Princeton University campus; hours are Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Closed Monday and major holidays. Visitor information: (609) 258-3788, or www.princetonartmuseum.org.

KUSTODIEV'S CHALIAPIN: This oil on canvas portrait of Fyodor Chaliapin by Boris Kustodiev was painted in 1922. *(Courtesy of the State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg)*

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AREA EXHIBITS

Another Angle Salon at 362 Nassau Street is presenting photographer Tasha O'Neill's exhibit, "Reflections and Juxtapositions," from now until April, 2006. For further information, call (609) 924-7733.

The Arts Council of Princeton's conTEMPORARY Arts Center, located at the Princeton Shopping Center, is presenting an exhibit featuring work by 14 current faculty members. The exhibit will be on display in the Reading Room through February 22nd. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.For more information, call (609) 924-8777.

Bristol-Myers Squibb is presenting "Marsh Meditations," an exhibit cefebrating the Hamilton-Trenton Marsh and the Princeton Artists Alliance. The exhibition will be open through Sunday, March 26.

The Cotsen Children's Library at Princeton University is celebrating the bicentenary of Hans Christian Andersen's birth with the exhibition, "Wonderful Stories for Pictures: Hans Christian Andersen and His Illustrators," on view through March 26, 2006. For more information, call (609) 258-1148, or email ejohnson@princeton.edu.

Gallery 31 North is presenting "Zenna Broomer – A Retrospective 1965 - 2005." The show, which includes paintings, prints, and drawings selected from 40 years of work, will run through February 18.

The Gallery is located on the ground floor of the Historic Hunt House on the corner of Rt. 31 and Hunt Place, Glen Gardner, approximately 4 miles North of Clinton.

Grounds for Sculpture is currently displaying three exhibits: "Menhirs, Dreams, Myths, and Deities," "Balanced Dialogue: 10th Anniversary of the Hungarian Sculptors Society," and the International Sculpture Center's 2005 Outstanding Student Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Awards. The exhibits will be on view through April 30, 2006. Grounds for Sculpture is located at 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call (609) 586-0616, or visit www.groundsforsculpture.org.

The Historical Society of Princeton is currently exhibiting, "U.S. Presidents: Famous Faces in Princeton Places," and "The Windmill Turns Slowly: Photographs of the Updike Farm," on view through summer 2006. Museum hours are Tuesday through Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. For more information, call (609) 921-6748.

The Hopewell Frame Shop Gallery at 24 Broad Street in Hopewell is presenting Points of View," an exhibit of works by watercolorist and local art teacher Gail Bracegirdle that will run from now through February.

The Hunterdon Museum of Art is celebrating is "Art Rugs: The 'Art' of Playing Cards," through March 5. The museum's annual Members Exhibition will also be on view through March 5. Located in Clinton, the gallery is open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (908) 735-8415.

The James A. Michener Art Museum in Doylestown is featuring "Radical Vision: The Revolution in American Photography," which will be on view through May 28. A major exhibition of works by photographer Ansel Adams will open February 18 and run through May 14. "New Orleans: A Beloved City," an exhibition of photographs taken in the mid-1980s by Michael A. Smith, is on view in the Betz Gallery through February 19.

As part of its ongoing Outdoor Sculpture Program, the Michener is also exhibiting "In the Beginning," an installation of sculpture by Kevin Forest that will be on view through February 26. The museum is located at 138 South Pine Street in Doylestown. For more information, call (215) 340-9800.

An exhibition featuring 160 of Judith Leiber's award-winning handbags will be open through April 30 in the Della Penna Gallery of the **James A. Michener Art Museum in New Hope.** For more information, call 215-862-7633, or, for both museums, visit www.michenerartmuseum.org.

The Jane Vorhees Zimmerli Art Museum's feature exhibition, "Breaking the Mold: Sculpture in Paris from Daumier to Rodin," will be on view through March 12 in the Vorhees Special Exhibition Galleries. The museum is located a 71 Hamilton Street, on the College Avenue Campus of Rutgers University in New Brunswick. Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., and noon to 5 p.m. on the weekends. The museum is open free to the public on the first Sunday of every month. For more information, call (732) 932-7237, ext. 610, or visit www.zimmerlimuseum.rutgers.edu.

The Jewish Center Gallery on Nassau Street is presenting "Serendipitous Moments in Time," an exhibition of images by Griggstown resident and artist David Perl that will run through March 12.

The Gallery at Mercer County Community College is presenting "Corpus Callosum," an exhibition of works by Austin Dodson and Courtenay Q. Long. The show will be on view through February 17.

The New Jersey State Museum in Trenton is currently hosting the New Jersey State Council on the Arts 2003 and 2004 Fellowship Exhibition in the museum's Galleries at 225 West State Street. The show will be on view through March 18, 2006.

The Paul Robeson Gallery at Rutgers University, Newark, is presenting two new exhibitions: "Full Circle: Revolution in the Paintings of Hung Liu" and "Rumble Room," an audio-meditational installation, after James Turrell and The Rothko Chapel. Both shows will run through February 23. For hours and further information, call the gallery at (973) 353-1610.

The Princeton Day School's Anne Reid Art Gallery is presenting the ceramic artistry of potter Madhvi Subrahmanian through February 17, not throughout the months of February and March as listed in last week's guide. PDS is also featuring works by sculptors Dana Stewart, Harry Gordon, and Elizabeth McCue in a recently installed sculpture park on the grounds of the main campus. The display will be on view until June 15, 2006. The school is at 650 the Great Road, Princeton.

The Princeton University Art Museum is presenting an intimate, single-monitor installation by the Belgian filmmaker Chantal Akerman through February 26. "Between Image and Concept: Recent Acquisitions in African-American Art" will be on view through February 26. A major new exhibition, "Mir Iskusstva: Russia's Age of Elegance," opens on February 25 and will be on view through June 11.

The Rider University Art Gallery will be presenting "James Kearns Continuities, Fifty + Years," through Thursday, February 23 at the Rider University Art Gallery.

The Suzanne Patterson Resource Center and the Williams Gallery of Fine Art are holding a joint exhibition at the Resource Center celebrating Princeton art and artists titled, "In and Around Princeton." A portion of the proceeds from the sale of artwork will be donated to the Center, which is located at 45 Stockton Street, behind Borough Hall. Hours are weekdays, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call (609) 921-1142.

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THIS WEEK AT THE MUSEUM

Events

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Cosponsored by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, and Program in Russian and Eurasian Studies. The colloquium examines Russia's World of Art from literary, musical, artistic, and international perspectives.
February 17, 1:00-5:00 p.m.
McCormick 101
Reception in the museum to follow

Gallery Talk
Dionysos in Ancient Art
Elizabeth Kessler, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Art and Archaeology
February 17, 12:30 p.m., and February 19, 3:00 p.m.

Children's Talk/Art for Kids
Can You SEE in the Dark?
Barbara Willis, museum docent
February 18, 10:00 a.m.

Highlights Tours
Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Note: Space is limited at museum events. Please come early to ensure a place, as programs are filled on a first come, first served basis

Exhibitions

Between Image and Concept: Recent Acquisitions in African-American Art
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Violinist Anne Meyers In Concert at Peddie

The Community Arts Partnership at the Peddie School (CAPPS) will continue its 2005-06 Signature Saturdays Series with a performance by violinist Anne Akiko Meyers on Saturday, February 25 at 8 p.m. The concert will be held in the Mount-Burke Theater at the Peddie School in Hightstown.

An international artist known for her technical brilliance, passion, and stage presence, Ms. Meyers' interpretations of both the traditional and contemporary repertoire have attracted critical acclaim. She has appeared as soloist with many symphony orchestras including the Boston Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Berlin Radio Orchestra, Teatro Colon Symphony of Buenos Aires, Moscow Philharmonic, l'Orchestre de Paris, Polish National Radio Symphony, and Tokyo's NHK Symphony. She was recently featured in the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra's Museum Square concert, which was heard by a live audience of 10,000 and broadcast live throughout Europe. It can be seen and heard on her website, www.anneakikomeyers.com.

Born in San Diego of American and Japanese heritage, Ms. Meyers is widely considered one of the top violinists of her generation.

Tickets are $20, and may be purchased by calling (609) 490-7550. For more information on CAPPS, visit www.peddie.org/capps.

MUSIC REVIEW

The King's Singers Present Old and New Music With Voices That Blend Together Beautifully

Chamber ensembles are more than the sum of their parts. In an ensemble of six or fewer musicians, each performer's tone and timbre is critical, and the musical identities must all blend together flawlessly.

The King's Singers, a vocal ensemble of six men, was founded almost forty years ago, and understandably, the personnel has changed from time to time over the years. This year's configuration of the Singers brought to McCarter Theatre last Tuesday night two counter-tenors, two tenors, a baritone, and a bass, in a concert marked by vocal diversity, as well as precise and exact singing.

The six men who comprise the King's Singers all have been with the ensemble for varying periods, several of them joining within the past five to ten years. The vocal anchor seems to be bass Stephen Connolly, who has been part of the ensemble for almost twenty years, likely replacing one of the original members in the mid-1980s. Although he has the most color-filled voice of the sextet (and a tone that occasionally seemed reedy compared to the others), throughout the first half of primarily Renaissance music, the ensemble gelled well together, centered around his voice, as well as that of David Hurley, the highest counter-tenor.

The King's Singers cannot succeed without uniformity of vowel, and that was certainly in evidence from the opening piece by Adrian Willaert. The works selected for the first set of Italian madrigals included a wide range of 16th century vocal effects and styles. The madrigals of Carlo Gesualdo were particularly loaded with harmonies and tuning effects well ahead of their time. These dramatic shifts and tuning anomalies were expertly handled by the ensemble, with the anguish of the text well expressed. Also well blended was Jacques Arcadelt's *Il bianco e dolce cigno*.

The King's Singers has had a long tradition of bringing contemporary choral music to the forefront, and Cyrillus Kreek's *Four Estonian Psalms* were certainly worthy of the attention. Rarely heard outside of Estonia, Kreek's choral music draws from Estonian folk music, as well as a stately homophonic style prevalent in Eastern European choral music of the 20th century. The dark harmonies of these pieces worked well for the ensemble, and Mr. Connolly and baritone Christopher Gabbitas blended particularly well in the second selection, Onnis on *inimene*. Counter-tenor Robin Tyson, a more recent addition to the ensemble, has an especially nice solo in the fourth selection setting of Psalm 121.

The ensemble also presented two works which had been commissioned by the sextet, both of which were rooted in Japanese poetry and Haiku. The Singers did not need to produce a great deal of sound in the acoustic of McCarter, and the words, especially of the Haiku settings by Toru Takemitsu, were clearly heard.

Even more than classical choral literature, the King's Singers are known for their rendition of popular songs and lighter works, recalling a close harmony tradition begun by the Comedian Harmonists in the 1930s and replicated on many college campuses (including Princeton). Previous members of the ensemble have also served as arrangers, and the ensemble has had long-standing collaborations with arrangers such as Daryl Runswick, whose *Blockbird* was one of the highlights of this closing set. The ensemble has also been known for programming humorous works, including their closing arrangement of *Old MacDonald Had a Form* in Italian, in which their expertise at musical (and animal) effects was clear. During this set, it was especially nice to hear baritone Mr. Gabbitas in Philip Lawson's arrangement to Billy Joel's *She's Always a Woman*. In this selection, even the humming of the other singers was clear throughout the theatre.

The King's Singers have been together, in some form or another, for almost forty years. One thing that has not changed is the ensemble's ability to draw a crowd, and delight the audiences which come to hear them time and time again.

—Nancy Plum

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State Theatre Plans Mozart Anniversary Celebration in March

Joining the yearlong, worldwide 250th anniversary celebration of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in 1756, New Brunswick's State Theatre will present two performances of the composer's music in March. For opera lovers, the Mozart Festival Opera will perform Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, a musical fantasy fairy tale of heroes, villains, and damsels in distress, on Saturday, March 11, at 8 p.m. The performance will be sung in German with English supertitles.

The following week, on Saturday, March 18 at 8 p.m., The Original Vienna Mozart Orchestra, comprising musicians from Viennese orchestras, will recreate a baroque concert of Mozart's "greatest hits." The signature pieces will be played and sung by performers in historical costumes and period wigs.

The Mozart Festival Opera, a sister company of Teatro Lirico D'Europa, made its U.S. debut in the fall of 2003 with a production of *Don Giovanni* that was praised for its cast, stage direction, sets, and costumes. The company recently completed a successful fall 2004/winter 2005 U.S. tour with *Don Giovanni* and *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and is currently touring with *The Magic Flute (Die Zauberflöte)* in the original German with English supertitles projected above the stage.

The mission of the new company, which uses the same orchestra and chorus as Teatro Lirico D'Europa (the Sofia Symphony Orchestra and Chorus), is to provide a touring opera showcase for American and European operatic artists together. All of the soloists are professionals with international experience who have performed major roles in the U.S. and Europe. Mozart Festival Opera's musical director, J. Ernest Green, lives near Washington, D.C., and is a frequent guest conductor with the National Symphony.

The Original Vienna Mozart Orchestra was founded in 1986 by musicians from Viennese orchestras and from various chamber music ensembles. The artists share the aim of preserving the musical tradition and cultural heritage of Vienna by dedicating themselves to the cultivation and representation of the symphonic chamber music of the Viennese Classical Period. The orchestra's repertoire ranges from Mozart's symphonies to a variety of his instrumental concertos for violin, piano, and winds, and includes arias and duets from his most famous operas.

The Original Vienna Mozart Orchestra's CDs include *The Best of Mozart*, Vols. 1 and 2, *A Mozart Evening in Vienna*, and *A Mozart Concert in Vienna*.

Tickets for *The Magic Flute* range from $25 to $55; tickets for the Original Vienna Mozart Orchestra, from $25 to $60. Group, student, and senior discounts are available. To order, call the State Theatre box office at (732) 246-7469, or visit www.StateTheatreNJ.org.

CELEBRATING MOZART: The Original Vienna Mozart Orchestra, coming to New Brunswick's State Theatre on Saturday, March 18, will recreate a concert of baroque music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart as it might have been played, sung, and presented two centuries ago. Performing in historical costumes and period wigs, the Orchestra will help area music lovers commemorate the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth.

Jazz Pianist Helen Sung To Offer CAPPS Concert

The Jazz Fridays Series at the Peddie School in Hightstown will offer a performance by pianist Helen Sung and her trio on Friday, March 3 at 8 p.m. in the school's Mount-Burke Theater. The program will feature a free, pre-concert chat with the artist from 7 to 7:30 p.m. in the theater.

The concert will be a presentation of the Community Arts Partnership at the Peddie School (CAPPS).

Ms. Sung was last seen in Hightstown playing with trombonist and seashellist Steve Turre as part of the 2004-05 Jazz Fridays Series. Her debut CD, *PUSH*, received an enthusiastic review by Jim MacNie in the Village Voice. "She's got a syncopated trio track that messes with the blues while flashing off in all sorts of directions," he wrote. "The pianist is making a name for herself by offering broad vistas while still accentuating particulars."

Of Chinese heritage, Ms. Sung attended Houston's High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. Initially she pursued a classical music career by earning her bachelor's and master of music degrees in classical piano from the University of Texas at Austin. Her decision to switch to jazz came in 1995 when she was accepted into the inaugural class of the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Performance at the New England Conservatory of Music. An intense performance program accepting only seven students, it offered an opportunity to study and perform in a septet with some of the greatest masters of jazz — Clark Terry, Wynton Marsalis, Jimmy Heath, Jackie McLean, Harry "Sweets" Edison, and James Moody. The class toured India and Thailand with Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter and performed at the Kennedy Center.

After graduating from the Institute in 1997, Ms. Sung performed and recorded in the Boston area, presenting a jazz workshop with the late bassist Ray Brown. She has since appeared at the Playboy, Marblehead, and Tanglewood Jazz Festivals.

Most recently, she has performed with saxophonist Greg Tardy, drummer T.S. Monk, and trumpeter Clark Terry. She was profiled in NewsDay, and has had featured bills at such venues as the American Jazz Museum's Blue Room, Steinway Hall, Steinway Gallery, the Tusten Jazz Festival, and Montclair Jazz. She lives in New York City.

Tickets are $15. For more information, call the Swig Arts Center at (609) 490-7550 or visit capps@peddie.org. Ms. Sung's website address is www.helensung.com.

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Leon Botstein

Leon Botstein to Conduct The Jerusalem Symphony

The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Maestro Leon Botstein, will perform on Tuesday, February 28 at 8 p.m. at New Brunswick's State Theatre. The program will include Bohuslav Martinu's *Memorial to Lidice*, Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring Suite*, and Dmitri Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 5 in D Minor*.

Founded in the 1940s, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra was originally known as the Kol Israel Orchestra. In the 1970s the orchestra expanded and became the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra. It was the first symphony orchestra to play in the State Theatre in April, 1988 after an extensive renovation and reopening.

The orchestra has had six musical directors: Mendi Rodan, Lukas Foss, Gary Bertini, Lawrence Foster, David Shallon and, since 2003, Mr. Botstein. Now in his third season as music director and principal conductor, Mr. Bostein is also music director and principal conductor of the American Symphony Orchestra in New York. He also founded and is co-artistic director of the Bard Music Festival.

Mr. Botstein recently released a Telarc recording of Chausson's opera *Le Roi Arthus* with the BBC Symphony. His other recent recordings include two discs with the American Symphony Orchestra; music by Copland, Sessions, Perle, and Rands for New World Records; and music by Ernst von Dohnányi for Bridge Records. His recording of Gavrill Popov's *Symphony No. 1* with the London Symphony was nominated this year for a Grammy for Best Orchestral Performance.

For his contributions to music Mr. Botstein has received the award of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and Harvard University's Centennial Award, as well as the Cross of Honor, First Class, from the government of Austria. Since 1975, he has also served as president of Bard College in New York, where he holds the Leon Levy Chair in Arts and Humanities.

A complimentary pre-performance "Insight," *More Than Meets the Ear: Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra*, will be presented at 7 p.m. Composer/conductor/music educator Raymond Wojcik will discuss the politics under the surface of the music while offering the audience a new way of listening to the works. Ticket holders may call the box office to reserve a seat for the talk, which will be held at the United Methodist Church near the theater.

Tickets are $65, $55, $45, and $30, with group, college student, and senior discounts available. To order, call (732) 246-7469 or visit www.StateTheatreNJ.org.

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Chamber Players Concert To Feature Copland Work

Princeton University Concerts will present The Richardson Chamber Players this Sunday, February 19 at 3 p.m. in Richardson Auditorium. Michael Pratt and Nathan A. Randall will be the artistic co-directors.

Marking the tenth anniversary of The Richardson Chamber Players, the second concert in the series *From the New World: A Celebration of American Music*, will include Aaron Copland's Ballet *for Martha (Appalachian Spring)* in its original version for 13 instruments.

Also on the program will be the rarely-performed *Two Sketches on Indian Themes for String Quartet* by Charles Tomlinson Griffes, and *The Hako (String Quartet)* by Arthur Farwell, both composers of the so-called "Indianist" Movement; and the *Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano* by George Antheil, a native of Trenton.

Tickets are $20, $15, and $10, with students $2, and may be obtained at the Richardson Auditorium box office beginning at 1 p.m. on Sunday. They may also be reserved by telephone by calling (609) 258-5000.

Westminster to Welcome Uppsala Chamber Choir

On February 22, Westminster Choir College of Rider University will welcome the Uppsala Academy Chamber Choir, conducted by Stefan Parkman, in a rare presentation of the complete Rachmaninov *All Night Vigil*. The free concert will take place at 8 p.m. in Westminster's Bristol Chapel.

Commonly known as the *Vespers*, the *All-Night Vigil* was composed by Sergei Rachmaninov in 1915, and is regarded as the crowning achievement of the Golden Age of Russian Orthodox sacred choral music. Originally composed for use on high holy days in the Eastern Orthodox Church, the composition is often performed as a concert piece as well as a liturgical work.

The Uppsala Academy Chamber Choir is a 45-voice ensemble in residence at Uppsala University, the oldest university in Sweden. The ensemble performs a broad repertoire ranging from the Renaissance to their specialty, premieres of contemporary a cappella music. The choir's several recordings include a collection of Swedish a cappella music from the 17th century on the Chandos label.

Mr. Parkman is professor of choral conducting at Uppsala University and active as a choir and orchestra conductor. Conductor of the Uppsala Academy Chamber Choir since 1983, he has also led the Uppsala Cathedral Boy's Choir, YMCA Chamber Choir

Stefan Parkman

in Stockholm, and the Royal Philharmonic Choir in Stockholm. In 1989, he was appointed chief conductor of the Danish National Radio Choir, and in 2002 became chief conductor of the Swedish Radio Choir. In addition, he has appeared with numerous symphony orchestras and ensembles in Scandinavia, including the Norrland Opera in Luleå, the Royal Opera in Stockholm, the Radio Symphony Orchestra in Copenhagen, and the Aarhus Symphony Orchestra. Last year he was conductor in residence at Westminster Choir College.

Although admission is free and open to the public, tickets are required. To request tickets, call the box office at (609) 921-2663.

February NJSO Concerts To Feature Emanuel Ax

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra has announced that its music director, Neeme Järvi, will lead the Orchestra in a series of concerts in late February featuring the acclaimed pianist Emanuel Ax. Mr. Järvi will replace the previously-scheduled guest conductor, Kwamé Ryan, in the concerts, designed to showcase NJSO musicians performing on 30 rare string instruments comprising the Orchestra's Golden Age Collection.

Mr. Ryan has withdrawn from his engagement with the NJSO because he is being considered for a position with a European orchestra and the opportunity for a "live audition" with that orchestra has just become available.

"We are thrilled that Maestro Järvi has been able to rearrange his schedule so that he will be able to join us later this month," said NJSO Chairman Dr. Victor Parsonnet. "We look forward to welcoming him back to the podium."

Performances of the program will be presented on Friday, February 24 at NJPAC in Newark at 8 p.m.; on Saturday, February 25 at the War Memorial in Trenton at 8 p.m.; and on Sunday, February 26 at NJPAC, at 3 p.m. The program will feature Elgar's *Introduction and Allegro*, Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings*, and Brahms' *Piano Concerto No. 1*.

The current season marks Mr. Järvi's first as music director of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. He is also chief conductor of the The Hague Residentie Orchestra in the Netherlands, Music Director Emeritus of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Principal Conductor Emeritus of the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra (the National Orchestra of Sweden), and Conductor Laureate of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. Born in Tallinn, Estonia and an American citizen since 1987, he is one of today's busiest conductors, making frequent guest appearances with major orchestras and opera houses throughout the world.

Tickets are $75, $62, $50, $35, and $20, and may be obtained by calling the NJSO ticket office at (800) 255-3476, Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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State Theatre to Host Irish Tenors March 12

The Irish Tenors — Anthony Kearns, John McDermott, and Finbar Wright — will make their first-ever concert appearance at New Brunswick's State Theatre on Sunday, March 12, five days before St. Patrick's Day. Tickets for the 3 p.m. show range from $35 to $55.

The tenors' latest album, *Sacred, A Spiritual Journey*, released last September, features spiritual and inspirational songs.

Since they first joined voices in 1998, The Irish Tenors have interpreted a wide range of material, with such songs as *My Heart Will Go On*, popularized by Celine Dion, *Fairytale of New York*, and Jimmy Kennedy's *South Of The Border (Down Mexico Way)*. Their repertoire also includes, of course, *Danny Boy*, *My Wild Irish Rose*, and *Fields of Athenry*.

For many, Anthony Kearns, John McDermott, and Finbar Wright are synonymous with Irish music. Their albums — *The Irish Tenors* (1999), *Home For Christmas* (1999), *Live From Belfast* (2000), *Ellis Island* (2001), *We Three Kings* (2003), and *Heritage* (2004) — have sold millions of copies. The Irish Tenors also tour constantly, winning new fans around the globe in the process. In the U.S., they are one of the most successful Irish touring acts ever, second only to U2.

In 1998, three artists were called upon to sing together, backed by a 60-piece orchestra, at the Royal Dublin Society. The three were Mr. Kearns, Mr. McDermott, and Ronan Tynan. Mr. Wright was also approached but was unable to participate due to previous professional obligations. Not long afterward, a recording of the concert was broadcast in the U.S. on PBS, producing an enthusiastic response. In March 1999 the group mounted its first stateside tour, drawing 15,000 fans to Madison Square Garden and selling out other major venues throughout the country. The enduring nature of the tenors' appeal was made clear when their first two albums each spent more than two years on Billboard's World Music and Classical charts.

In February 2000, Mr. McDermott chose to leave the group following the death of his mother, at which time Mr. Wright stepped into the lineup. The newly reconstituted Irish Tenors went on to record *Live From Belfast* with guest John McDermott. That album was succeeded in 2001 by *Ellis Island*, an album based on the history of immigration in America that featured narration by actor Martin Sheen.

For tickets, call the State Theatre box office at (732) 246-7469, or visit www.StateTheatreNJ.org. The box office is located at 15 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick. For information on group outings and discounts, call (732) 247-7200, ext. 536.

TENORS, ANYONE? New Brunswick's State Theatre will host a concert by The Irish Tenors — from left, Finbar Wright, Anthony Kearns, and John McDermott — on Sunday, March 12 at 3 p.m. Tickets range from $35 to $55; to order, call the box office at (732) 246-7469.

Steely Dan's Donald Fagen Will Kick Off Tour Here

One of the two founders of the jazz-pop band Steely Dan, Donald Fagen, will kick off his first-ever solo tour at the State Theatre in New Brunswick on Wednesday, March 1 at 8 p.m. The concert will take place just six days before Reprise Records' release of Mr. Fagen's new solo album, *Morph the Cat*. Tickets range from $45 to $65.

Featuring nine new songs written and arranged by Mr. Fagen, *Morph The Cat* will be the Grammy-winning artist's first solo album since 1993's *Kamakiriad*, and the final installment in a musical trilogy that began with *The Nightfly* in 1982.

Morph The Cat selections include the title track and the debut single, *H Gang*, which was released in January. Also featured are *What I Do*, *Brite Nightgown*, *The Great Pagoda of Funn*, *Security Joan*, *The Night Belongs To Mona*, and *Mary Shut The Garden Door*. The album's themes range from impending mortality and assorted apocalyptic scenarios to homeland security and the ghost of Ray Charles. "I don't think you can escape the environment we live in now," said Mr. Fagen. "If Steely Dan has survived, and I have survived as a solo artist, it's partly because we've reflected what's going on around us."

Morph The Cat was recorded in New York City and Kauai, Hawaii with longtime Steely Dan engineer Elliot Scheiner at the boards. The album also features former Steely Dan musicians Keith Carlock on drums, bassist Freddie Washington, and guitarists Hugh McCracken, Jon Herington, and Wayne Krantz. Mr. Fagen performs lead and backing vocals and plays keyboards.

Mr. Fagen's month-long tour will take him from New Brunswick to Washington, D.C., New York City, Boston, Atlantic City, Ottawa, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Minneapolis, Denver, Las Vegas, and Los Angeles, among other venues.

For tickets, ranging from $45 to $65, call (732) 246-7469.

Sovereign Bank Arena To Host Country Singers

Country music star Gretchen Wilson, whose latest album *All Jacked Up* debuted at No. 1 on SoundScan's Country and Top 200 Charts, will appear at the Sovereign Bank Arena in Trenton on Friday, March 10 at 10 a.m. The concert will be part of Ms. Wilson's "Redneck Revolution Tour," which debuted to a full house on January 18 in Dallas, Texas.

The concert will also feature guests Van Zant and Blaine Larsen.

Since Ms. Wilson's Redneck Woman anthem hit the music scene 18 months ago, she has garnered Grammy awards, Billboard Music awards, an American Music Award, a CMA Horizon Award, the Top Female Vocalist award from the ACM, and the CMA's Female Vocalist of the Year award. Her debut album *Here For The Party* is approaching sales of five million, and *All Jacked Up* is already platinum.

Van Zant, the new Columbia Records duo comprising brothers Johnny and Donnie, holds the distinction of having the highest-selling debut country album of 2005 with *Get Right With The Man*. The Redneck Revolution Tour offers the first opportunity for fans to see them perform as a duo, since both men were fulfilling commitments with their respective bands, Lynyrd Skynyrd and .38 Special, throughout 2005.

Blaine Larsen, just 19, has already attracted the attention of fans and critics alike. His debut single, *How Do You Get That Lonely*, made him one of the best selling new country artists of the year. *Good Morning America* featured him as a breakout artist of 2005 and USA Weekend proclaimed him as Nashville's Boy Wonder.

Tickets start at $20. To purchase, visit the Sovereign Bank Arena box office, call (888) SBA-TIXX, or visit www.sovereignbankarena.com.

Beethoven and Prokofiev On Steinway Recital Bill

The Steinway Society's 16th season of Sunday afternoon musicales will continue with a March 12 concert from 4 to 6 p.m. by Jae-Hyuck Cho. The recital and reception to meet the artist will be held in the Recital Hall of Jacobs Music, 2540 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville.

Admission will be $15 for nonmembers, $8 for student nonmembers.

Jae-Hyuck Cho

Born in South Korea, Mr. Cho came to the United States in 1987. He received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Juilliard School, having studied with Herbert Stessin and Jerome Lowenthal. He is currently studying for a DMA degree at the Manhattan School of Music.

The New York Times has praised Mr. Cho as having an "effortless, brilliant technique." His performances have included programs at Carnegie's Weill Hall, The Lincoln Center, Seoul Arts Center, Hoam Art Hall of Korea, and The Great Hall of Moscow Conservatory. Orchestral appearances have been with the New Jersey Symphony, San Angelo Symphony Orchestra of Texas, Lautus Chamber Orchestra of New York and the Art Chamber Orchestra of Korea. Upcoming performances will be with One World Symphony of New York and New Orleans Philharmonic, in addition to solo recitals and chamber concerts in Korea and the U.S.

Mr. Cho's competitive achievements include first prize in the Maria Canals International Competition in Spain, Sorantin Young Artists Competition of Texas, a diploma in the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, New Jersey Chamber Music Society Award, and New Jersey Governor's Award, among others.

His program will include music by Beethoven, Liszt, and Prokofiev.

Founded in 1989, the Steinway Society is dedicated to developing the talent of young piano students. The musicales support the Society's annual scholarship program. For more information, call (609) 434-0222 or visit www.princetonol.com/groups/steinway.

The next concert in the series, on June 18 at 4 p.m., will feature Karen Walwyn, a recitalist and professor of piano at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Her program will include her own compositions in addition to music by Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Bernofsky, Rossi, and Beach.

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David Darling

"Affordable Theater" From Young Audiences To Debut on Saturday

The curtain will rise this Saturday, February 18, on the opening performance in a new Young Audiences New Jersey Family Series designed to bring "affordable family theater" to New Jersey audiences.

The Family Series, an initiative of Princeton-based Young Audiences New Jersey (YANJ), will again premiere at McCarter Theater's Roger S. Berlind Theatre, with three musical performances — by the percussion group Exit 9, musician and story-teller Ssuuna, and Grammy-nominated David Darling. Mr. Darling, known as the "Maverick Cellist," has received the national Young Audiences Artist of the Year award for his work with children.

The Series will open February 18 at the Berlind with Exit 9. Ssuuna will appear at the Berlind on May 20, Mr. Darling on June 3. Tickets at the Berlind and all other venues will be $10.

This year the Family Series will extend beyond Princeton to partner with several other professional stages in New Jersey — The Two River Theatre Company in Red Bank, George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, and The Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey in Madison. In all, the series will offer 15 family-oriented performances with performers ranging from the a capella singers Ball in the House to the Cashore Marionettes. All shows, regardless of location, will take place at 11 a.m.

The series began last year with performances at the Berlind Theatre, championed by YANJ Executive Director Laurence Capo. "My experience was that aside from movies, there weren't a lot of live performances that parents could take their children to that weren't expensive," said Mr. Capo. "My idea was to provide an opportunity for families to see something worthwhile in a theater that didn't cost a fortune."

On February 25, the Cashore Marionettes will appear at the Two River Theatre Company in Red Bank. Exit 9 will perform again at the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick on March 4. To view the full schedule of Family Series performances, visit the YANJ website at www.yanj.org/fam ser.html.

Founded in 1973, YANJ provides performances, workshops, and long-term residencies to nearly 450,000 grade school children annually. The organization's professional artist roster represents all art forms, from dance and theater to music, language, and visual arts. Its programs are designed to strengthen the arts in schools, meet local and state curriculum standards, involve families in arts activities, and enrich cultural life in New Jersey communities. YANJ is the first arts education organization designated as a major service organization by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and, as part of the national network of Young Audiences, Inc., was awarded the National Medal of Arts by President Clinton.

For additional information or tickets to all shows, call YANJ at (609) 243-9000.

AFFORDABLE DRUMMERS: The percussion group Exit 9 will open a new Young Audiences New Jersey Family Series this Saturday, February 18, at the Roger S. Berlind Theatre. The program will be the first of three at the theater in a new YANJ initiative designed to bring "affordable family theater" to local audiences. Tickets are $10.

Appalachian Spring

Aaron Copland: Ballet for Martha (Appalachian Spring)
Charles T. Griffes: Two Sketches on Indian Themes for Quartet
Arthur Farwell: The Hako (String Quartet)
George Antheil: Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano

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Students and Professionals On "Rider Dances" Program

Members of Rider University's dance program will be featured in the production *Rider Dances* on Saturday, March 4 and Sunday, March 5. The program will take place at 8 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday at The Yvonne Theater in the Fine Arts Building on Rider's Lawrenceville campus.

Rider dance majors and minors will perform with alumni, faculty, Westminster Choir College students, and guest artists Douglas Martin and Mary Barton, a husband and wife duo who are teachers at the American Repertory Ballet's Princeton Ballet School.

At the March 5 afternoon performance, Dr. Phyllis Frakt, vice president for academic affairs and provost at Rider, will receive special recognition from the dance program and the American Repertory Ballet. Dr. Frakt, who will retire in June, has played a fundamental role in enhancing Rider's dance program, among other initiatives.

"There are at least ten reasons to see this year's dance program," said Dr. Kim Chandler Vaccaro, director of *Rider Dances*. "Pianists Jonathan Benjamin, Tim Brown, and Rider's own Dr. Richard Swain comprise one of them. Others are Rider theater faculty member Dr. Richard Homan on guitar; a tribute to the music of Harold Arlen, and the dance of Katherine Dunham; the special thank-you to retiring Provost Frakt; the energetic choreography of American Repertory Ballet's Laney Englehard; four returning, professional alumni; 37 fantastic Rider students; and the unsurpassed dancing of Ms. Barton and Mr. Martin."

Ms. Barton received her training at the Washington School of Ballet and participated in summer courses at The School of American Ballet and The Joffrey Ballet School. In 1986, she joined the Joffrey Ballet. She has performed around the world both as a solo artist and as a featured member of ballet companies. She has been on the teaching staff at the Princeton Ballet School for 11 years.

Mr. Martin started his ballet training with Dimitri Romanoff at the San Jose Ballet School and continued as a scholarship student at American Ballet Theater School. He joined the Joffrey II Dancers in 1982 and was promoted to the Joffrey Ballet in 1984. He has been on the teaching staff at the Princeton Ballet School since 1994. He also teaches at Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of Dance and Rider's Westminster Choir College.

Tickets are $10 for general admission and $5 for Rider students, faculty, staff, and seniors. They will be available at the door the evening and day of the performances, one hour before curtain.

For more information, call (609) 896-5168 or (609) 896-5000, ext. 7706.

Free Playwriting Workshop Offered Saturday at MCCC

Mercer County Community College is inviting aspiring playwrights to a free workshop exploring the fundamentals of playwriting this Saturday, February 18, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Studio Theatre in Room 122 of its Communications Building. The college is located at 1200 Old Trenton Road in West Windsor.

The workshop presenter, Stephen Gnojewski, earned his MFA in playwriting from Rutgers University and is currently the Literary Associate at George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick. His plays have been produced by several universities and theatre companies, and his play *Life Like* was awarded the Best New Work Award at the Tulsa (Oklahoma) Play Festival.

"The workshop will introduce several dramatic strategies used in structuring a story for the stage," said MCCC Theatre Program Coordinator Jody Person. "The final goal of the workshop is for the participants to produce a ten-minute play in proper format."

The workshop is free and open to the public. To reserve space, call (609) 586-4800, ext. 3524.

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No. 4 in E-flat Major BWV 1010
No. 6 in D Major BWV 1012

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George Street Playhouse Offering "The Pillowman"

New Brunswick's George Street Playhouse, under the leadership of Artistic Director David Saint and Managing Director Mitchell Krieger, will present the New Jersey premiere of Martin McDonagh's Tony-nominated play *The Pillowman* beginning Tuesday, February 21 and running through March 19.

Performances will be Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 and 7 p.m. Additional matinees will be offered on Thursdays, March 2 and 16, and on Saturdays, February 25, March 11, and March 18, all at 2 p.m.

Winner of the 2004 Olivier Award and an Evening Standard Award nomination for Best New Play after its world premiere at London's National Theatre, the play contains scenes and language that some may find disturbing. It is not considered suitable for children or those who may be easily offended.

The Pillowman recently ended its run at Broadway's Booth Theatre, which culminated in a Tony nomination for Best Play. Directed by John Crowley, it won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best Foreign Play.

The play deals with a fiction writer in a totalitarian state who is questioned by police about the gruesome content of his short stories and their similarities to a series of bizarre incidents occurring in his town. It takes on such issues as what defines art, censorship, and the importance of individual rights.

Will Frears, who directed *Omnium Gatherum* and *Terrorism* off-Broadway, will direct the George Street production.

"We're honored to be able to produce this extraordinary new play on the heels of its Broadway success, by a gifted writer who really turned the theatre world upside down with this imaginative and haunting new work," said Mr. Saint.

The cast will include Michael Mastro, formerly seen in GSP's *Inspecting Carol* and Broadway's *Twelve Angry Men* and *Side Man*, as Michal; Daniel Oreskes as Ariel; Lee Sellars of *Law & Order* as Tupolski; and Scott Ferrara in the role of the writer Katurian.

Playwright Martin McDonagh was born in London in 1971 to expatriate Irish parents. His first major success, the Tony Award-winning play *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, was the beginning of his Connemara Trilogy, which also includes *A Skull in Connemara* (1997) and *The Lonesome West* (1997). His numerous awards include the Evening Standard Award for Most Promising Playwright, and a Tony Award for *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*. His *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* opened off-Broadway at The Atlantic Theatre this month.

Post-play discussions will take place after each preview performance, February 21, 22, and 23.

Tickets range from $28 to $58. Discounts are available for seniors and groups of ten or more. To order, call (732) 246-7717 or visit www.GSPonline.org.

Award Winning Musical, "Urinetown," at Peddie

The Peddie School's Theater and Music Departments will offer three performances of the musical *Urinetown* this weekend, on Thursday, February 16 through Saturday, February 18 at 8 p.m. in the school's Mount-Burke Theater in Hightstown. Tickets are $10.

Urine Good Company, an evil corporation controlling the public utilities, thrives as a terrible water shortage grips a large city. To conserve water the government decrees that all citizens must use public amenities to, well, relieve themselves. And they must pay to do it. With the government and the evil corporation in cahoots, citizens who attempt to "pee without the fee" are arrested and sent to Urinetown, an unseen place from which no one ever returns. As citizen unrest grows, young Bobby Strong emerges as a leader of an uprising, even as he falls in love with Hope Caldwell, daughter of the CEO of the Urine Good Company.

Winner of the 2002 Tony Awards for best book and original musical score, the original Broadway production opened in September 2001 and was directed by John Rando, with musical staging by John Carrafa. The production closed in January 2004, running for a total of 965 performances. The musical's book is by Greg Kotis, the music by Mark Hollman, and lyrics by Mark Hollman and Mr. Kotis.

The cast will include Sarah Millar and Suzanne Simon of Princeton; Catherine Lindberg, Max McGuire, and Gregory Sullivan of Cranbury; Alexander Selden of Pennington, Christina Blok and Sara Gomez of East Windsor; and Daniel Corica of Hightstown.

For tickets or more information, call Peddie's Swig Arts office at (609) 490-7550.

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CINEMA REVIEW — *Firewall*

Harrison Ford in Familiar Role as Harried Husband on the Run

Jack Stansfield is a computer security specialist with Landrock Pacific Bank. He and his family are quietly living in a suburban Seattle mansion which has breathtaking views of the ocean. However, their life is about to turn into a harrowing nightmare because a gang of goons is about to kidnap Jack's wife Beth (Virginia Madsen) and his children — 8-year-old Andrew (Jimmy Bennett) and 14-year-old Sarah (Carly Schroeder).

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?: In an attempt to keep his family from harm, Jack Stanfield (Harrison Ford, left) begs his captors to free his wife Beth (Virginia Madsen, right) and children Sarah and Andy (Carly Schroeder and Jimmy Bennott, center). In exchange he promises that he will do whatever they demand of him. (Photo by Dylan Pura)

The intruders demand that he steal $100 million from his employer as ransom by breaking into the company's computers. However, this implicates the computer expert in the robbery.

If *Firewall*'s plot sounds familiar, it is because Harrison Ford has played essentially the same character several times before as in *Frontic* (1988) and *The Fugitive* (1993).

In *Frantic*, he played a doctor who couldn't get help from either the cops or the French embassy when his wife mysteriously disappeared while the couple was in Paris for a medical convention. He had to rely on the help of an attractive young woman (all the while resisting her attempts to seduce him).

In *The Fugitive*, Ford played a doctor framed for the murder of his spouse. The protagonist had to rely on his own wits to crack the case and clear his name.

There's not much that's different in *Firewall*, despite the pretentious techno-babble. It's another non-stop action thriller about an honest citizen forced to break the law for the sake of his family. Unable to get help from the authorities, he has to engage in a battle of wits against a sadistic villain.

As the movie begins, we learn that Jack's company, Landrock Pacific, is contemplating a merger with an outfit led by a British businessman named Bill Cox (Paul Bettany). No one suspects that Cox is a conniving crook. He and his henchmen, with the help of digital video recorders and parabolic microphones, have been secretly monitoring every detail of the Stansfield household's daily activities.

As a result, the conspirators know how to defeat the house's burglar alarm and also that Andrew is highly allergic to peanut butter. So, when they sweep into the home and hold the family hostage, resistance is futile. However, Jack is allowed to leave in order to hack into Landrock Pacific's accounts. He decides to fight the kidnappers, taking advantage of a few clues that he discovers, together with the assistance of his former secretary (Mary Lynn Rajskub) and his dog, Rusty.

If you are a diehard Harrison Ford fan, you will enjoy this latest variation on a familiar theme. The spry 63 year-old proves himself still capable of mixing it up convincingly in an assortment of fight scenes. Plus, Paul Bettany, as the despicable mastermind, adds to the enjoyment of the resolution of the plot.

Another edge-of-your-seat roller coaster ride from a matinee idol everybody loves to root for.

Very good (★★★). PG-13 for intense violence. Running time: 105 minutes. Studio: Warner Brothers.

—Kam Williams

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AT THE CINEMA

Annapolis (PG-13 for sex, expletives, and violence). James Franco stars in this drama about a boy's attempt to turn his life around after being accepted to the U.S. Naval Academy. With Tyrese, Donnie Wahlberg and Chi McBride.

Big Momma's Hause 2 (PG-13 for coarse humor and a drug reference). Martin Lawrence is back as cross-dressing FBI Agent Malcolm Turner. This time out, he again goes undercover as his sassy alter-ego Hattie Mae in order to take a job as a nanny for a woman (Emily Procter) suspected of murder. Nia Long is the only other returnee from the principal cast.

Brokeback Mountain (R for sex, expletives, nudity, and violence). Oscar-nominee Ang Lee (*Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*) directs this homoerotic drama based on the Annie Proulx short story of the same name. Set in Wyoming and Texas in the sixties, this romantic tale revolves around the divergent fortunes of a couple of closeted gay cowboys, one of whom finds fame in the rodeo (Jake Gyllenhaal) while the other remains a lowly ranch hand (Heath Ledger). With Michelle Williams and Anne Hathaway as their wives.

Cache (R for graphic violence). Juliette Binoche and Daniel Auteuil star in this Hitchcockian psychological thriller about a married couple who receive a series of increasingly intimate videotapes of themselves in the mail from an anonymous voyeur. In French with subtitles.

Curious George (G). Will Ferrell and Drew Barrymore lend their distinctive voices to this animated adaptation of the beloved children's book of the same name about an American gentleman who has his hands full with the mischievous chimp he brought back from a visit to Africa.

Date Movie (PG-13 for crude humor and language). *American Pie* trilogy alums Alyson Hannigan and Jennifer Coolidge star in this sketch-driven spoof brought to you by the same folks whose Scary Movie franchise lampooned the horror genre. Cast includes comedians Eddie Griffin and Fred Willard, and Carmen Electra and Vanessa Vander Pluym.

Eight Below (PG for scenes of peril and brief profanity). Based on actual events, this wintry, Antarctic adventure recounts the ordeal of a trio of explorers: a survival guide (Paul Walker), a cartographer (Jason Biggs), a geologist (Bruce Greenwood), and their loyal team of sled dogs in the wake of the arrival of an unanticipated perfect storm.

Final Destinntian 3 (R for profanity, nudity, horror violence and gratuitous gore). Third installment of the horror film finds surviving high schoolers riding an ill-fated roller coaster from Hell run by the Grim Reaper.

Firewall (PG-13 for intense violence). Action thriller features Harrison Ford as a harried husband matching wits with a ruthless criminal who has kidnapped his family. Cast includes Alan Arkin, Virginia Madsen, Robert Forster, and Paul Bettany.

Freedamland (R for violence and profanity). Oscar-nominees Samuel L. Jackson and Julianne Moore star in this crime thriller about a white woman whose claim that her four year-old son has been kidnapped in a carjacking by a black man inflames ethnic tensions in a working-class, New Jersey town. Supporting cast includes Edie Falco and Aunjanue Ellis.

Hoodwinked (PG for mature themes and action elements). Animated sequel to Little Red Riding Hood features the voicework of Glenn Close, Anne Hathaway, Jim Belushi, Anthony Anderson Xzibit, Andy Dick, Sally Struthers, and Chazz Palminteri. Update of the Brothers Grimm classic fairy tale overhauls the tone of the original in favor of a Shrek-like sensibility.

Imagine Me & Yau (R for sex and expletives). Romantic comedy about a blushing bride (Piper Perabo) who leaves her husband-to-be (Matthew Goode) at the altar after she falls in love, at first sight, with a complete stranger she spots in the church.

The Matndor (R for profanity and sexuality). Odd couple comedy about a burned-out hitman (Pierce Brosnan) who befriends a traveling salesman (Greg Kinnear) he meets in a bar in Mexico City by teaching the down-on-his-luck loser how to kill at a bullfight. With Hope Davis as the businessman's wife back in Denver.

Match Paint (R for sexuality). Woody Allen directs this crime drama about a social-climbing tennis pro (Jonathan Rhys-Meyers) at an upscale British country club who goes to great lengths to hide the fact that he has secretly seduced both a client's (Matthew Goode) sister (Emily Mortimer) and fiancée (Scarlett Johansson).

Mrs. Hendersan Presents (R for nudity and brief profanity). Oscar-nominee Stephen Frears (*The Grifters*) directs this campy comedy, set in London during the Battle of Britain, about an eccentric widow (Dame Judi Dench) who purchases a run-down theater to put on all-nude burlesque shows. With Bob Hoskins as her exasperated business partner.

Nunny McPhee (PG for adult themes, crude humor, and mild epithets). Emma Thompson handles the title role in this kiddie fantasy as a nanny who uses her magical powers to help a recently-widowed father (Colin Firth) manage his misbehaving brood of seven unruly children.

The Pink Panther (PG for crude humor and suggestive language). Steve Martin revives the role of hopelessly incompetent Inspector Clouseau, first brought to the screen by the late Peter Sellers, in this prequel to the classic franchise of comic crime capers. Here, the French detective chases Beyoncé, who plays the prime suspect in the disappearance of a priceless diamond. Cast also includes Kevin Kline and Emily Mortimer.

Something New (PG-13 for sexual references). Sanaa Lathan stars in this romantic comedy about a successful, African-American accountant in search of an IBM (Ideal Black Man) who is shaken to find herself attracted to her blind date (Simon Baker), not because he's a gardener, but because he's white. Supporting cast includes Mike Epps, Donald Faison, Blair Underwood, John Ratzenberger, Taraji Henson, Alfre Woodard, and Wendy Raquel Robinson.

Tamara (R for profanity, sexuality, alcohol abuse, and graphic violence). Grisly thriller about an ugly, unpopular teenager (Jenna Dewan) who perishes in a prank only to rise from the dead resurrected as an attractive avenger intent on hunting down all the bullies responsible for her death.

Transamerica (R for sexuality, nudity, profanity and drug use). Unlikely-buddy road flick reunites a pre-op transsexual (Felicity Huffman) with the long-lost, 17 year-old son (Kevin Zegers) she/he's never known for a cross-country, get-acquainted sojourn from New York to Los Angeles where the juvenile delinquent hopes to make a fresh start in gay porn.

Underworld: Evolution (R for profanity, nudity, sexuality, gore, and violence). Kate Beckinsale and Scott Speedman reprise their roles in this second installment of a trilogy of horror films about the love affair between a vampire and a werewolf whose tribes are at war.

When a Stranger Calls (PG-13 for profanity, violence, and intense terror). Horror film about a babysitter (Camilla Belle) who discovers that the increasingly threatening phone calls she's receiving are originating from somewhere inside the house.

The World's Fastest Indian (PG-13 for brief profanity, drug use, and a sexual reference). Sir Anthony Hopkins stars in this biopic based on the life and times of daredevil Burt Munro, New Zealand motorcycle enthusiast who set the world speed record in 1967 at Utah's famed Bonneville Salt Flats on a re-built Indian motorcycle made in 1920.

Why We Fight (PG-13 for brief profanity and graphic war images). Damning documentary examines the military industrial complex while raising disturbing questions about America's penchant for aggression around the world. With appearances by Gore Vidal, Bill Kristol, John McCain, Richard Perle, and more. **—Kam Williams**

Top Video Rentals
Week of February 4-11

Premier Video

1. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]
5. [illegible]

Princeton Video

1. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]
5. [illegible]

Fri. 2/17 to Thurs. 2/23

TRISTRAM SHANDY: A COCK & BULL STORY
[illegible]

TRANSAMERICA
[illegible]

WHY WE FIGHT
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[illegible] February 17 — Thursday, February 23
Cache (Hidden) (R) Fri. 4:45, 9:45; Sat-Mon 1:45, 9:45; Tues-Thurs 9
Tristram Shandy: A Cock and Bull Story (R) Fri. 5, 7:15, [illegible]; Sat-Mon 12:45, 2:45, [illegible], 9:30; Tues-Thurs 6:45, 9
Why We Fight (PG-13) Fri. 7:30; Sat-Mon 1:30, 2:30, [illegible]; Tues-Thurs 6:45

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Cache (Hidden) (R) Fri-Sat 2:35, 7:20; Sun-Thurs [illegible]
Imagine Me and You (R) Fri-Sat 5, 9:40; Sun-Thurs 5
Mrs. Henderson Presents (R) Fri-Sat 2:10, 4:40, 7, 9:20; Sun-Thurs 2:10, 4:40, 7
Transamerica (R) Fri-Sat 2:05, 4:20, 7:15, 9:40; Sun-Thurs 2:05, 4:20, 7:15
Tristram Shandy: A Cock and Bull Story (R) Fri-Sat [illegible], 4:45, 7, 9:15; Sun-Thurs 2:10, 4:45, 7
Why We Fight (PG-13) Fri-Sat 4:15, 9:15; Sun-Thurs 4:15
The World's Fastest Indian (PG-13) Fri-Sat 2:15, [illegible]; Sun-Thurs [illegible]

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Fri - Mon, February 17 - 20: 4:45, 9:45 (R)
Tues - Thurs, February 21 - 23: 9:00 (R)
TRISTRAM SHANDY: A COCK AND BULL STORY
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Bozena Louis Home Furnishings Also Offers Audio Cafe and More

"The welcome mat is out, and the door is open!"

Louis Diaz, owner with Bozena Gould, of Bozena Louis Home Furnishings, smiles as he surveys his spacious new store. He should be proud. He painted the space himself, and personally arranged and set up all the displays. Of course, as an interior designer for the past 23 years he has a knack for color, spatial relations, and style!

Opened in January in The Montgomery Center, in the

IT'S NEW To Us

space formerly occupied by Oriental Teak, the store features a full selection of furniture, also interior design service, home theater room with surround sound, and a café offering complimentary refreshments.

Making customers feel welcome is a priority, says Mr. Diaz. "We are set apart by the services we offer, our unique home theater, our in-house decorating, and the inclusion of other area businesses with our store. For example, Audio Café can provide the surround sound system and tech support, Chatham Rose is a full-service window treatment and interior design business, and my partner Bozena Gould also operates a home maintenance service. With a minimum purchase at our store, customers can have one week free cleaning at their home, and we will also provide a free design service, including a design plan and decorating tips, with a minimum purchase.

No Sticker Shock

"Another thing, " he adds, "We have great quality at affordable prices. Customers will not have sticker shock at our prices."

Transitional, traditional, and contemporary furniture for all rooms is featured, with the focus on hard woods, such as oak, cherry, poplar, and some mahogany. "It is primarily imported from Indonesia, China, and some from Brazil, but mainly from the Orient," reports Mr. Diaz. "People are buying a lot of master bedrooms right now. We also have a full line of youth and teen furnishings. And if you don't see what you want on the floor, you can look at one of our many catalogs here in the store. We can order furniture for you."

Bedroom choices include impressive four-posters and sleigh beds, dressers, etc. and for the dining room, a big selection of tables of all sizes, chairs, side boards, and china and curio cabinets is available. An attractive 40-inch diameter round tile-top table features a butterfly leaf, transforming the table into a larger oval.

"Pub tables are very popular right now," reports Mr. Diaz, " and are available in cherry wood and in cappuccino finish." You can place your bets on a fun "roulette" table and add to the panache of a family or game room. And there is a nice variety of accent pieces as well.

One of the most appealing aspects of Bozena Louis is its inviting arrangement of small sample room settings. Sofas, including leather, chairs, beds, and dining room tables, etc. are situated throughout the showroom, which also includes an upstairs.

"I furnished this showroom to look the way I'd like my own home to look," notes Mr. Diaz. "We have our ideas for decorating on display. I liked the idea of having personalized rooms, including our home theater with 80-inch TV and surround sound. We also have flat TV screens at various spots throughout the showroom. Videos and cartoons are available for kids to watch while their parents shop, and dads can have a cup of coffee and watch the game or even check the stock market."

Stunning Array

In addition to the furniture, a stunning array of silk flower arrangements is on display. "We have one of the largest selections of silk flowers and trees, and they have been very popular," says Mr. Diaz. "We also have a very good selection of Oriental area rugs in all sizes and shapes — round, oval, and rectangle, in different fabrics and assorted patterns."

New and interesting table and floor lamps, mirrors, and vases, including lead crystal, accent pillows, and a large assortment of framed art, are all handsomely displayed. Also available is the full line of Jaclyn Smith designer mattresses, featuring Visco memory foam, which conforms to the body.

Bozena Louis is currently offering a special sale in addition to its grand opening and Presidents' Day sale, says Mr. Diaz, who looks forward to meeting more members of the community. "We are a secret soon to be discovered!" he quips. "People from Princeton and the area are finding us, and once they come, we know they will be back. We want to get to know them and learn what they want. We look forward to becoming part of the community."

In addition to overseeing his new store, Mr. Diaz continues to work as an interior designer. "I will do any size job for customers — complete renovation or addition, or furniture rearrangement. One of my biggest pleasures is having a customer come in after the job is done and say how pleased they are with the work. This brings joy to me."

Right now, his biggest joy is the new store, he adds. "This is my dream come true. I wa always a designer for others. Bozena has helped my dream come true. It was her suggestion to open our store."

Bozena Louis' hours are Monday through Thursday 10 to 7, Friday and Saturday 10 to 6, Sunday 12 to 4. (609) 497-6464.

FINE FURNISHINGS: "We have a complete selection of furniture, as well as an audio cafe — a TV home theater with surround sound — and in-house interior design service. We can do almost anything for the house and home improvement." Louis Diaz and Bozena Gould, owners of Bozena Louis Home Furnishings, are seated on a handsome soft leather sectional in light taupe (also available in black), which features a sleeper and two recliners. Store manager Evelyn Sowirko is not shown.

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GRANDPARENT'S VISITATION RIGHTS

Your son or daughter is divorced or deceased. You do not get along with his/her former spouse, and that spouse is refusing to allow you to see your grandchildren. So what do you do?

New Jersey has statute which provides for grandparent visitation. The statute is as follows:

a. A grandparent or any sibling of a child residing in this State may make application before the Superior Court, in accordance with the Rules of Court, for an Order for visitation. It shall be the burden of the applicant to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the granting of visitation is in the best interests of the child.

b. In making a determination on an application filed pursuant to this section, the Court shall consider the following factors:

(1) The relationship between the child and the applicant;

(2) The relationship between each of the child's parents or the person with whom the child is residing and the applicant;

(3) The time which has elapsed since the child last had contact with the applicant;

(4) The effect that such visitation will have on the relationship between the child and the child's parents or the person with whom the child is residing;

(5) If the parents are divorced or separated, the timesharing arrangements which exist between parents with regard to the child;

(6) The good faith of the applicant in filing the application;

(7) Any history of physical, emotional or sexual abuse or neglect by the applicant; and

(8) Any other factor relevant to the best interests of the child.

c. With regard to any application made pursuant to this section, it shall be prima facie evidence that visitation is in the child's best interest if the applicant had, in the past, been a full-time caretaker of the child. N.J.S.A. 9:2-7.1

While this statute allows a grandparent to apply to the Court and request visitation rights, the Statute does not make the visitation automatic. Until recently, the grandparent had to prove to the Court that they met the above factors and visitation with his/her grandchild was in the best interest of the child.

That burden of proof has been recently changed by case law. In the case of Moriarty v. Bradt, 177 N.J. 84 (2003), the Court held that New Jersey's Grandparent Visitation Statute was constitutional, however, it held that before visitation can be ordered over the objection of the child's parent, a Court must find that an actual harm will result to the child's health or welfare without such visitation.

In other words, if a grandparent successfully meets the factors set forth in the statute, visitation will only be ordered if the grandparent can additionally prove that without the visitation, there will be harm to the grandchild.

Why is this burden so difficult? This burden is a tough burden to overcome because visitation with a child, against the child's fit parent's wishes, interferes with the fit parent's fundamental liberty interest protected by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. Moriarty, 177 N.J. at 101.

In other words, a fit parent's right to raise their child as they see fit is a Constitutionally protected right. Therefore, if an otherwise fit parent does not believe that visitation with a child's grandparents are in the child's best interest, the Court will not interfere with the fit parent's wishes unless the grandparent can prove that the grandchild will be harmed without the visitation.

If you are seeking to make a grandparent visitation application, I suggest that you discuss with your attorney the facts of your case and the success rate of overcoming this strong burden.

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Optical Gallery of Princeton Provides Full-Service Eye Care

Whether it's contact lenses or the latest featherweight frames, eye glasses today are a fashion statement. Not just functional anymore, they can enhance your look and style.

Need theatrical contacts, a new color? An extra pair of featherweight frames to go with a new outfit, or for a special event? Whatever your optical "must-haves", The Optical Gallery of Princeton has something for you. The latest look in frames, lenses created from the most advanced technology, even bi-focal contacts, and in addition, full service eye exams performed by owner and optometrist Dr. Mark Donlon, are available.

Opened in December at the Princeton Shopping Center, in the location formerly home to The Sight Center, The Optical Gallery offers a newly-renovated showroom, with an array of attractive displays.

Manager Gary Evans, former manager of The Sight Center, and in the optical business since 1984, is pleased to reconnect with the community. "This is really home to me. The shopping center is a great location. Among other things, you can't beat the parking!"

Imported Frames

Mr. Evans stresses the personal service offered by The Optical Gallery. "What we emphasize is what looks well on a person. We fit the frame to your features, eye color, hair color, and the shape of the face. No one is ever rushed. We take time to make sure it's right for you."

And there are so many choices. The latest technology has resulted in featherweight, highly durable frames, which can also be customized. "A lot of our frame lines are exclusive to us in the area, imported frames you will find in New York or Philadelphia," points out Mr. Evans. "A lot of them come from Europe, including Denmark, France, Switzerland, and Germany. They are a little different, available in a lot of colors and for custom orders, very lightweight, better quality materials, and twice as strong."

Lines include Air Titanium form Lindbergh Optics in Denmark, Pro Design from Denmark, T-2 from Switzerland, Caviar from France, and Tag Heuer from Germany. These are exclusive to the Optical Gallery in the area.

Some frames are lightweight plastic, hypoallergenic polypropianate, and hypoallergenic titanium, notes optician Bernardo Nitkinas.

"Some are totally lightweight and weigh about two grams," adds Dr. Donlon. "The closest thing to wearing nothing."

The latest advances in lenses are equally impressive. "Lenses can be much more customized today because of advances in technology," explains Mr. Evans. "The lenses are not mass-produced. They are customized right here. We are a specialty shop for prescription lenses."

Latest Equipment

Optician Bernardo Nitkinas, who came to the U.S. from Lithuania in 1965 and to Princeton in 1976, grinds the lenses to the individual prescription. It is very precise and exacting work.

"My father was an optician too, and my playground was his office," remembers Mr. Nitkinas. "I made my first pair of glasses at the age of six, and I'm still having fun doing it today. And now we have all the latest equipment."

Lens choices abound today, points out Dr. Donlon. "Bifocals and trifocals with lines, and also progressive lenses without lines. One lens can take care of distance, close-up, and intermediate. There are also transition lenses, which change from light to dark. They are stimulated by ultraviolet light and vary with the extent of the ultraviolet."

With transition lenses, there is no need for a pair of sunglasses. It's all in one.

If contacts are your thing, Dr. Donlon can provide whatever you need. "We are fitting a lot more bifocal lenses," he reports. "And another new development is the 30-day continuous lens, which you wear for 30 days without removing them — even at night — and then discard. They are very convenient and very safe."

In addition, he points out that new technological advances are coming along all the time. "As the advances continue, in particular, a spin-off of laser technology, we will be able to correct higher order aberrations."

Kids Section

As an optometrist, Dr. Donlon is licensed to perform eye exams, write prescriptions for glasses and contacts, and prescribe certain medications, including for treatment of dry eye. "We see quite a lot of this, and there are new treatments for it."

The Optical Gallery is a full-service center for the entire family, notes Mr. Evans. "It's nice. We get everyone — kids, parents, grandparents, even great-grandparents. We take care of them all. We have a separate kids section, with bendable frames that can withstand hard use. And we have special kids' packages, offering lens and frames for $159.

Prices generally cover a wide range, with frames beginning at $100 and going up to $700. Lenses are determined by the prescription. There are also ongoing seasonal specials and promotions.

"We have something for every pocketbook," says Mr. Evans. "And all are quality frames, whatever the price. We look forward to reaching out to the community, letting them know we are here for them, for their lenses, frames, eye exams, and treatment. It's really one-stop shopping!"

The Optical Gallery is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 to 6:30, Thursday 9:30 to 2, Saturday 10 to 3. (609) 921-6620.

—Jean Stratton

OPTICAL OPTIONS: "Our whole philosophy is that we never want people to feel as if they are a number. We offer very personalized service here. We take into consideration clients' hobbies, whether they play sports or a musical instrument, in order to fulfill their optical needs. Manager Gary Evans (left), optometrist Dr. Mark Donlon, and optician Bernardo Nitkinas of the Optical Gallery of Princeton, look forward to serving the community.

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Because the public often gets its fashion cues from high-profile movie stars, actors, and models, the Vision Council of America has created the Best Dressed Eyes award for sunwear. It is hoped that this contest will serve as an entertaining tool that promotes the benefits of eyewear and sunwear to the public. This promotion recognizes the fact that generations of Americans have gotten their fashion cues regarding sunglasses from Brando, Nicholson, Cruise, and others. The recipients of the first Best Dressed Eyes award are actors Kern Russell, Brad Pitt, and Halle Berry, model Molly Simms, and singer Ricky Martin.

If you find pictures of these or other people with glasses that have caught your attention, bring them in.

Although movie stars wear sunglasses to make a fashion statement, everyone needs sunglasses to protect their eyes from harmful UV rays. Quality sunwear provides 100 percent UV protection and can significantly reduce the risk of vision problems such as cataracts and retinal damage.

Visit MONTGOMERY EYE CARE at Montgomery Center at 1325 Route 206 to browse our extensive display of sunglasses, or call us at 609-279-0005 to schedule an eye exam. Office hours are Mon 10-8, Tues, Wed, Thurs 10-7, Fri 10-6, and Sat 9-3.

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PROUD POTTERS: Annabelle and Max show off their clay bowls crafted during a morning pottery camp session at the City Garden.

REACHING FOR THE STARS: Olivia Layton learns a cheerleading move. Holding her aloft are (from left), Lucia Bonilla, Madelina Tayor, and Brittany Vargas. The occasion was National Girls and Women in Sports Day, held at Jadwin Gym by the Princeton University Department of Athletics.

(Photo by George Vogel)

Contest Held to Rename After School Program

The Princeton YMCA Open Doors after school program at the John Witherspoon Middle School is holding a contest to come up with a catchy and attractive new name. The contest is open to all John Witherspoon students and will run through the end of February. The winner will receive a $150 cash prize.

Proposed names should capture the spirit and vision of the program which delivers quality and diverse activities such as academic support, mentoring, visual and performing arts, sports, fitness, cultural immersion, cuisine, computers, science, and civic education.

The Princeton YMCA after school program also offers students an opportunity to learn from leaders in the business community through the "Jr. Apprenticeship" program. Currently, students are learning the different aspects of how to form their own business and make it successful.

Each activity at the program offers, is designed to build on individual student interests. Academic support is provided to reinforce each program and further each student's success in school.

Entries for the new name can be submitted to Natasha Schiller at nschiller@princetonymca.org, to the YMCA membership office or to the John Witherspoon after school office. The winner will be chosen by a YMCA panel in March. For additional information on the contest or the after school program, call (609) 497-9622 or visit www.princetonymca.org.

Rambling Pines Camp Hosts Open House

Rambling Pines Day Camp has scheduled an open house for parents and children on Sunday, February 26, from 1-3 p.m. There will be a tour of the facility and some staff members will be on hand to answer questions. Applications are being accepted for the 2006 summer season. Some groups are already filled so parents are encouraged to register as soon as possible.

Rambling Pines is a family owned and operated day camp now celebrating it's 31st season. Located on Route 518 in Hopewell, they offer programs for children ages 3 to 15 and a teen program for 8th and 10th graders. Transportation and lunch are included in the camp tuition.

For additional information or brochure, call (609) 466-1212 or visit www.ramblingpines.com

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY CAMP: Campers at iD Tech Camps have fun while working on a variety of technology based projects such as programing robots.

HIGH TECH CAMP: At Computers and Kids, instructor Joe Mattei teaches campers how to build and troubleshoot computers. When he is not teaching at the camp, Mr. Mattei designs astronomy software and is involved with OPSETI (search for extraterrestrial intelligence).

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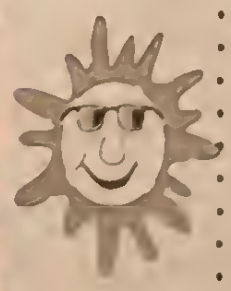

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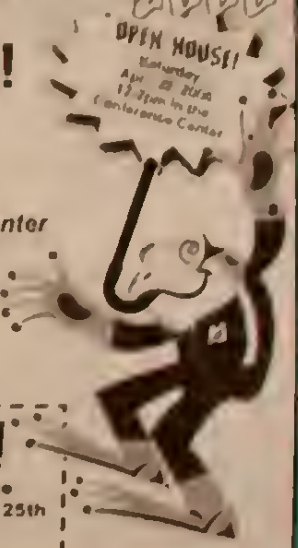

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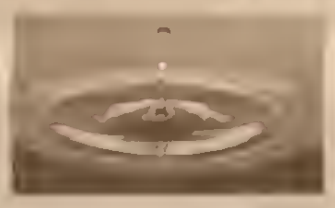

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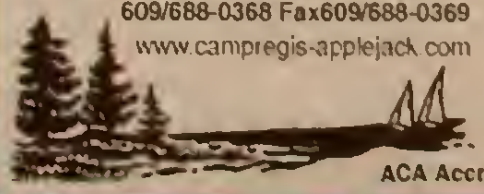

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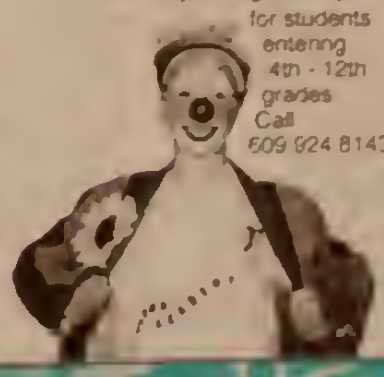

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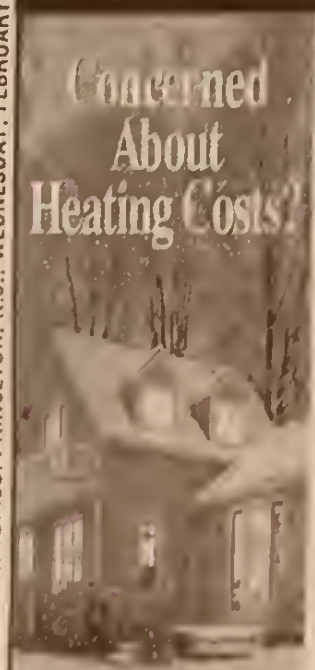

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Sports

Paced By Senior Leaders, Scoring Balance, Tiger Women's Hockey On a Hot Streak

Jeff Kampersal felt confident about his Princeton University women's hockey team heading into its games last weekend against Harvard and Dartmouth.

"We had a really good week of practice," said Tiger head coach Kampersal. "I think the biggest reason is that the seniors are getting the kids ready."

The sixth-ranked Tigers didn't waste any time showing they were ready against Harvard as they outshot the No. 8 Crimson 16-1 in the first period and took a 1-0 lead on a goal by Britney Salmon. Princeton extended that lead to 4-0 as Salmon added another goal with Marykate Oakley and Annie Greenwood also finding the back of the net.

Princeton cruised to a 6-1 victory, outshooting the Crimson 49-16 on the evening with Oakley and Allison Ralph rounding out the Tiger scoring.

Kampersal pointed to the team's scoring balance as a key to its surprisingly lopsided win over its archrivals. "We don't have a really dominant player," said Kampersal, who is in his 10th year guiding the Tiger program. "We have a bunch of good players who are willing to play hard. We have two scoring lines that other teams have to deal with."

GOAL-ORIENTED: Princeton University freshman star Annie Greenwood controls the puck last Saturday on her way to a two-goal performance in the Tigers' 7-2 win over visiting Dartmouth. Greenwood now has a team-high 21 goals, the second highest total of any player in the ECAC Hockey League. In upcoming action, Princeton heads to Union for a two-game set on February 17 and February 18.

That depth was put on display a day later as Princeton routed Dartmouth 7-2 to improve to 15-6-4 overall and 11-3-2 in ECAC Hockey League play. The Tigers jumped out to a 3-0 lead after one period and led 7-0 entering the third period. Greenwood and Kim Pearce led Princeton with two goals apiece as Oakley, Tarah Clark, and Kathleen Dineen also lit the lamp.

The win was particularly impressive in view of the fact that Princeton has struggled at times to put together back-to-back wins.

"The seniors stepped up," added Kampersal, whose core of seniors includes co-captains Clark and Heather Jackson together with Sarah Butsch, Chrissie Norwich, and star goaltender Roxanne Gaudiel. "Early in the year we had weekends where we have played well on Friday and then didn't on Saturday. The seniors didn't want that to happen."

Freshman phenom Greenwood has also been stepping up big, leading the team with 21 goals. "Annie has a knack for scoring goals," asserted Kampersal, whose leading point scorer is Pearce with 33 points on nine goals and 24 assists. "She has great eye-hand coordination. She gets all kinds of goals-the ugly ones, the great ones, and the ones where you have to work hard."

CREASE CONTROL: Princeton University senior goaltender Roxanne Gaudiel, left, makes one of her nine saves in Princeton's 7-2 rout of Dartmouth last Saturday. Gaudiel's sparkling play in the net which has seen her yield just 1.61 goals per game has been a major factor in the success of Princeton, who is 15-6-4 overall and 11-3-2 in ECAC Hockey League play.

The defensive unit together with senior goalie Gaudiel have been the unsung heroes for Princeton all season long. "Our defense as a whole is a really solid unit," said Kampersal, whose team has been giving up a measly 1.8 goals per game. "They are really good on the first pass on the breakout; that's really important. Roxy has just done well in her career; she comes to play every night."

With Princeton having faltered in the past upon returning to play from its January exam break, Kampersal has fine-tuned his coaching approach a bit this season.

"We've tried to do things differently," said Kampersal, whose team is 4-1 in the games played since returning from exams. "We're trying to keep them in better condition. We're keeping them going longer on the ice."

Princeton's late surge has it in second place in the ECAC standings behind St. Lawrence and in good position to host a playoff series.

In Kampersal's view, it is the team's spirit as much as its skill that is setting it apart. "I think this is one of the closest teams we've had, there is a great chemistry," asserted Kampersal, whose club plays a two-game set at Union this Friday and Saturday. "We take it one period at a time. We just worry about being the best that we can be during that time. There has been a lot less thinking and a lot more playing."

If Princeton can keep focused on the present, it could be playing for a long time in the ECAC playoffs.

–Bill Alden

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STROKES OF GENIUS: Princeton University senior squash star Yasser El Halaby, left, smashes the ball in action last season. This weekend, El Halaby will look to lead Princeton to the national collegiate team title in competition to be held February 17-19 at the squash courts in Jadwin Gym. In two weeks, El Halaby will go for his fourth straight collegiate individual title.

(Photo courtesy of Princeton's Office of Athletic Communications)

Princeton Squash's El Halaby Brother Act Has Tigers Aiming for National Team Crown

Princeton University squash superstar Yasser El Halaby was on pins and needles for much of last year.

The Cairo, Egypt native wasn't nervous about his game as he won his third straight national collegiate individual crown, becoming the first male player to accomplish that feat in college squash history.

No, the source of El Halaby's anxiety was his younger brother, Hesham, whose application to Princeton was pending.

Hesham, who helped the Lawrenceville School squash team win the national Prep team title in 2005, ultimately got accepted to Princeton.

This weekend, the El Halaby brothers will join forces as Princeton tries to win the national collegate team title on his home courts in Jadwin Gym.

The younger El Halaby has enjoyed getting to compete with his legendary brother, particularly since he rarely got the chance to play with him in Egypt.

"I was learning to hold a racquet and he was actually competing," said El Halaby, who started playing the game when he was nine years old.

"The age gap was enough to keep us from playing together. We started playing together more last year. It's fun to be on the team with him. He is definitely someone who looks out for me and makes sure everything is OK."

El Halaby, who has been playing at No. 4 in most matches in his debut season, has taken his lumps as he has adjusted to the college game.

"In college squash, the players are physically stronger so it's definitely more competitive," explained El Halaby.

"In high school, you could easily pull out a win. In college you have to be playing well and making sure everything is going fine; you just can't win easy. Physically and fitness-wise, I'm maturing."

The transition has been eased by the Tiger squash team's well-known camaraderie. "Here the squash team is like a fraternity," said the genial El Halaby with his ready grin. "Everyone is really close; we all look out for each other."

The elder El Halaby has relished the chance to welcome his brother to the fraternity. "It's good to have him here," said El Halaby with his face lighting up.

"He was definitely interested when he saw I was enjoying it so his interest developed right away. I'm going to help him with whatever I can, whether it be squash or any other experiences I've had at Princeton."

El Halaby is determined to cap his Princeton career by experiencing a national team title. "My priority is for the team to win," asserted El Halaby, who acknowledged that overcoming seven-time national champion Trinity will be tough.

"I think it is nine years since Princeton has won the title. That would be a perfect way to end, especially on our home court."

After the team competition, El Halaby will turn his attention to becoming the first male player to win four national crowns.

"I think I want to win this year because I think I should win," said El Halaby, a philosophy major who plans to play on the pro squash circuit after graduating from Princeton.

"The level I'm at shouldn't allow anyone to beat me on the college circuit. If that means I'm the first to win four in a row, that's a nice thing to have."

For Princeton head coach Bob Callahan, it's been nice to add another El Halaby to his squad. "He's come here with a lot of hype," said Callahan, who has a special insight into coaching brothers with his sons, Princeton High alums, Tim and Scott, currently playing for the Tigers.

"It's tough being the younger brother of Yasser. It's been great; it's a credit to how close they are and how much Hesham thinks of his older brother."

While the younger El Halaby may not end up as a national champion, Callahan believes he has a bright future. "Hesham is a very talented player and a very talented athlete," said Callahan, who has been playing freshmen Mauricio Sanchez at No. 2 and Kimlee Wong at No. 3.

"I think his potential is terrific. He's getting better and he's defining what his game is about. He has strong attributes and it's how you put those pieces together to take best advantage of those skills."

Callahan is in awe of how the elder El Halaby has put his game together. "It's been a wonderfully rewarding, eye-opening experience," said Callahan in reflecting on getting the chance to coach the squash virtuoso.

"He is such a good person and an incredibly hard worker. He's loved his time here, he's made a ton of friends here and he is an icon of the campus. He is so well known; he's the Bill Bradley of his class."

El Halaby's graduation will unquestionably leave a void in the program. "He knows the game so incredibly well; that's what sets him apart," added Callahan.

"Every time I talk to him, I learn tons. When we get together next fall, it will be strange without him. You can count on him and the way he leads; the way he talks to the team and gives them confidence and energy going into a situation."

Hesham, for his part, is looking forward to applying the lessons he has learned from his older brother.

"I'm ready to be myself next year," added El Halaby. "It's been good to have Yasser guiding me this year. I want to develop my game so I can be one of the top players."

And while it will be hard for Princeton to say goodbye to one El Halaby, it is comforting to know that it has another one in the fold for the next three years.

—Bill Alden

BROTHER ACT: Princeton University freshman squash player Hesham El Halaby strokes a shot in a recent match. El Halaby has played at No. 4 for Princeton in his debut season, joining forces with his older brother, senior star Yasser El Halaby.

(Photo courtesy of Princeton's Office of Athletic Communications)

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Tiger Women's Hoops Misfires Badly; Squanders Chance to Tie for Ivy Lead

It was a night that the Princeton University women's basketball had been building toward for several years.

Having not had a winning season since 1998-99, Princeton brought a 14-5 record into its clash last Saturday against defending Ivy League champion Dartmouth.

More importantly, the Tigers were 5-1 in Ivy play, just one game behind the frontrunning Big Green.

With a Jadwin Gym throng of 1,837 on hand to celebrate National Girls and Women In Sports Day, Princeton was primed to show it was a legitimate Ivy title contender.

But while the snow fell heavily outside, Princeton's shots weren't finding the mark inside. Missing its first eight shots, Princeton didn't get on the board until a Meagan Cowher putback some 4:12 into the game.

The Tigers missed six more shots as they fell behind 15-2. Ending the first half making just eight-of-26 shots, Princeton trudged into the locker room trailing 37-19.

In the second half, Princeton cut the margin to 15 points a couple of times but could get no closer as it fell 82-64, ending the evening looking like a title pretender.

Wiping away tears from her eyes, senior guard Katy O'Brien asserted that the Tigers just couldn't take advantage of the open looks it produced.

"We were getting incredible shots," said a frustrated O'Brien, who ended the night with eight points and four assists. "We were working the ball; we were getting the shots we were looking for on offense. We just didn't knock them down."

The Tigers cold shooting impacted other areas of the game. "We started to be less aggressive because of that," said O'Brien. "We weren't going to the boards when we were missing our shots."

Princeton also faltered on the defensive end as Dartmouth shot 48.2 percent from the field, including 9-of-16 from three-point range.

"We let them get the shots that we had practiced for them not to get," said O'Brien. "They got three-point shots; they penetrated and kicked it out. We didn't do a good job."

Princeton head coach Richard Barron wasn't quite sure why his team stumbled out of the gate. "It was a slow start, you can guess why it happened but you never know," said a glum Barron, whose team had started the weekend on a high note by whipping Harvard 70-55 on Friday night. "We missed a lot of easy shots. We got into a funk. I didn't see a lot of fight in us in the first half. We just reacted to plays in a very discouraged way."

The Tigers may have been a bit overwhelmed by the occasion after spending recent seasons in the bottom half of the Ivies.

"This is new to us, we've not been in the Ivy hunt," said Barron, who got 22 points from Cowher and 12 from Becky Brown. "We've not played in a game that had the meaning that this had so maybe some of it is not having been in this situation before. We haven't played a lot of games where we've had to come back from behind. Our style of play doesn't lend itself to big comebacks."

Barron is cautiously optimistic that his team can come back from Saturday's disappointment. "We'll have to see," said Barron, whose team hosts Cornell on February 18 and Columbia a night later. "This is new territory for us. The only thing I know to do is to continue working hard. We need to get back to it and work at it. It's the only thing we can do."

O'Brien, for her part, feels the team just needs to master the basics. "The things we messed up on tonight are very simple," said O'Brien. "They are things we work on in practice and we can't not translate them to games."

—Bill Alden

FAMILY TIES: Pittsburgh Steelers head coach Bill Cowher and his wife, Kaye, enjoy the scene at Jadwin Gym last Saturday night as they watch their daughter, Meagan, play for the Princeton women's basketball team against Dartmouth. While Cowher gave her parents plenty to smile about as she scored a game-high 22 points, it wasn't enough as the Tigers fell 82-64 to Dartmouth.

(Photo by Bill Alden/U Sports Action)

GREEN WALL: Princeton University senior guard Katy O'Brien has her shot blocked by Dartmouth's Ashley Taylor in Princeton's 82-64 loss to the Big Green last Saturday. The defeat to the Big Green dropped Princeton to 14-6 overall and 5-2 in Ivy League play. Princeton will shoot to get back on the winning track this weekend when it hosts Cornell on February 18 and Columbia a night later.

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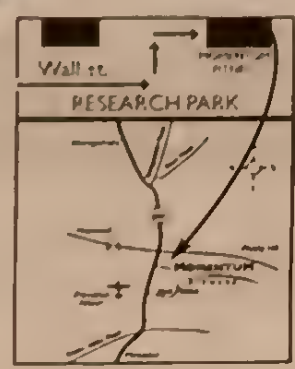


Princeton Men's Hockey Hurt by Slow Starts In Overtime Losses at Harvard, Dartmouth

It has been a season of breakthroughs on many levels for the Princeton University men's hockey team.

The team has won nine games, already surpassing its victory total from last season. In addition, the Tigers beat Denver University in late December, marking the program's first win over a defending national champion since 1972.

Recently, Princeton notched wins over top-20 teams Cornell and Colgate on the way to posting its first weekend sweeps in ECAC Hockey League play since 2001-02.

But the Tigers could've experienced even more success had it not been for their penchant for getting off to a slow start. "We have been struggling to get out of the gate," said Princeton head coach Guy Gadowsky.

That bad habit came back to bite the Tigers twice last weekend on a swing to New England. On Friday, Princeton fell behind 1-0 at 17th-ranked Harvard in the first period and could never get in the lead as it dropped a 5-4 overtime decision.

NEAR MISS: Princeton University freshman forward Brandon Kushniruk reaches for the puck in recent action. Last weekend, the Tigers suffered a pair of overtime losses as they fell 5-4 at Harvard last Friday and then dropped a 2-1 heartbreaker at Dartmouth a day later. Princeton, now 9-15-1 overall and 6-11-1 in ECACHL play, will look to get back on the winning track when it hosts Rensselaer on February 17 and Union a night later.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

The Tigers fought back to knot the game at 1-1, 2-2, 3-3, and 4-4 but couldn't hold off the Crimson as goalie Eric Leroux surrendered a goal 1:46 into the extra session on the 56th shot he faced on the night.

"Eric Leroux was fantastic, you have to acknowledge that," said Gadowksy in assessing his team's performance against the Crimson. "He kept us in the game but he should not have faced that many shots."

A day later, Princeton fell behind 1-0 at Dartmouth as it was outshot by a 13-1 margin in the first period. The Tigers fought back and evened the game at 1-1 in the third period on Christian Read's first career goal. But in a discouraging case of déja vu, Princeton yielded an overtime goal to suffer a 2-1 defeat.

Read's goal was a highlight on a night that didn't end until Princeton arrived home at 2:30 a.m. after braving a snowy bus ride back from New Hampshire.

"It was great to see Christian get that first goal, particularly on a game that was nationally televised," said Gadowsky of the Skillman native who starred for the Lawrenceville School. "He has had such a great attitude the past two years. He hasn't played a lot of games but he has kept working hard."

While Gadowsky admires his club's collective character, he emphasized that it can't keep digging itself holes. "I think all year, they have responded well to adversity," said Gadowsky, whose team is 9-15-1 overall and 6-11-1 in ECACHL play. "But you're not going to win hockey games by spotting teams the first period."

The third-year head coach is taking an unusual step in a bid to help his team start quicker. "We have to address that internally," explained Gadowsky. "We've asked the guys to have a meeting on their own and come up with an initiative on what we can do to change."

With the Tigers hosting Rensselaer on February 17 and Union a night later, a return to home ice should jump start Princeton.

"We're looking to establish home ice," maintained Gadowsky, whose team stands in 10th place in the ECACHL standings, three points away from eighth place and a home playoff series. "The crowds at Baker Rink have been great, the fans have really been supportive. The guys really love playing at home."

—Bill Alden

Tiger Men's Track Wins H-Y-P Meet

Taking first in eight events, the Princeton University men's track team topped Yale and Harvard last weekend in the H-Y-P meet held in Cambridge, Mass.

In the team standings, Princeton piled up 78 points with Yale scoring 62 and Harvard getting 20. Individual standouts for Princeton on the track included Mike Kowal, the winner of the 800-meter race, Eric Belghts, the first-place finisher in the 1000-meter race, Rich Stewart, the top finisher in the 500 meters, Ray Lenihan, the winner of the 60 hurdles, and Dave Nightingale, the victor in the 3,000 meters. Tiger winners in the field events were Alex Pessala in the weight throw and Will Byrd in the pole vault.

The Tiger track teams host the Princeton Invitational on February 18.

Tiger Women's Track 2nd in H-Y-P Meet

The Princeton University fell just short of winning the H-Y-P title as it was edged by Yale last weekend in the meet held in Cambridge, Mass.

In the team standings, Yale scored 61 points with Princeton tallying 60 and Harvard finishing with 38. Individual standouts for Princeton included Cack Ferrell, the winner of the mile run, and Laura Landry, the top finisher in the 400 meters. Princeton also picked up wins in the 4x400 and 4x800 relay events.

The Tiger track team hosts the Princeton Invitational on February 18.

Princeton Men's Swimmers Top Navy, Columbia

Meir Hasbani and Robert Griest combined for five wins as the Princeton University men's swimming team topped Navy and Columbia in action last weekend.

Hasbani won the 200 individual medley, the 200 butterfly, and the 200 breaststroke with Griest taking victories in the 1000 freestyle and the 500 free.

Sophomore diver Stuart Malcolm provided a major highlight of the meet as he set a new school record of 350.20 in winning the three-meter board event. Malcolm's total eclipsed the previous mark of 348.90 set by Billy Heinz in 1975.

RALLY TIME: Princeton University sophomore star Noah Savage lofts a shot in Princeton's recent win over Brown. Last Friday, Savage hit a last-second jumper to give Princeton a dramatic come-from-behind 60-59 victory at Harvard. A night later, the Tigers edged Dartmouth 52-49 for their fourth straight win. Princeton, which improved to 7-12 overall and 5-1 in Ivy League play with the win over the Big Green, was slated to play at Penn on February 14 before heading to New York for games at Cornell on February 17 and at Columbia a night later.

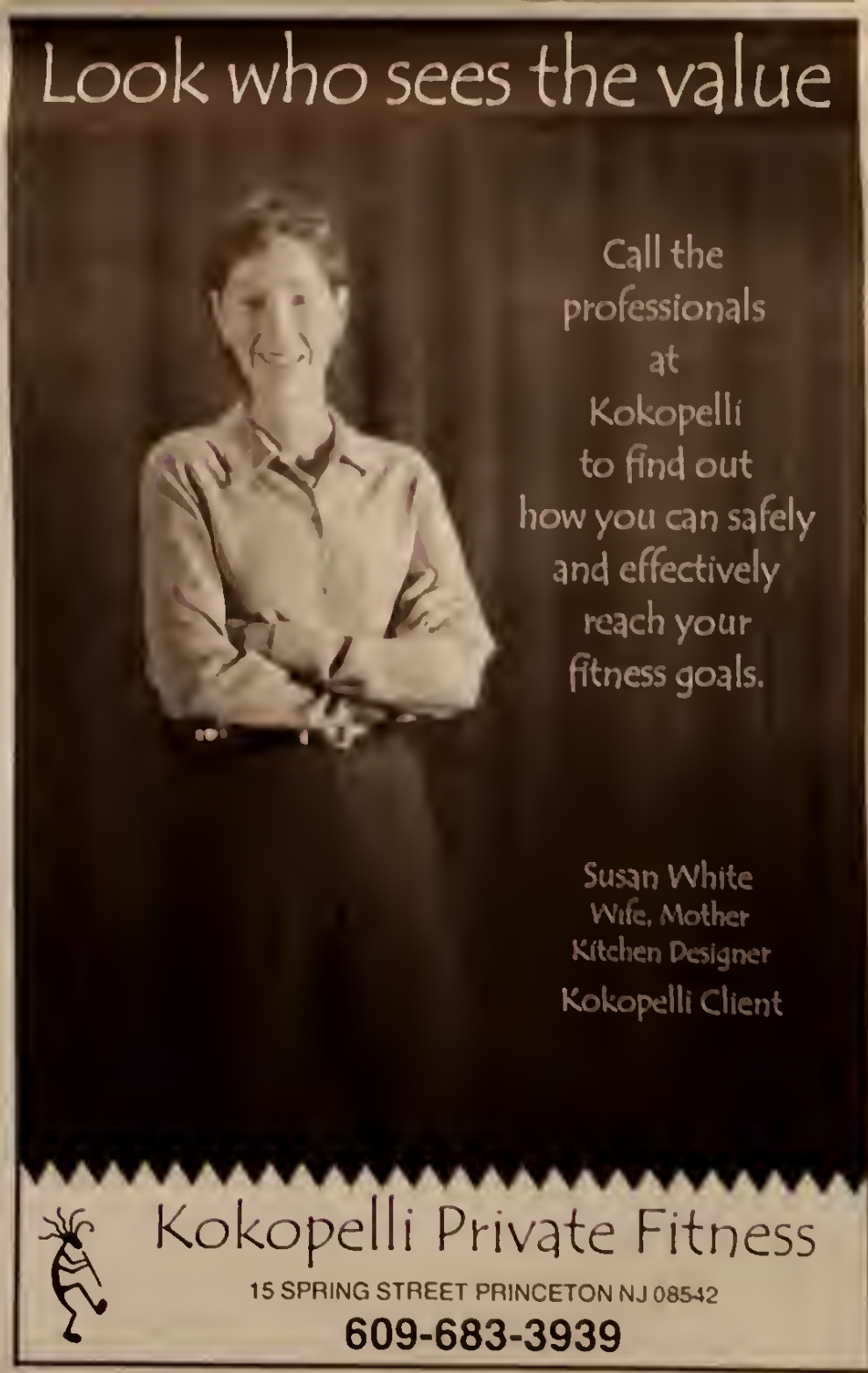
(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

Tiger Women's Swimming Tops Columbia

Coming up big in its home finale, the Princeton University women's swimming team cruised past Columbia 123-96 last Friday.

Individual standouts for Princeton included Joelle Miloy, the winner of the 1000 freestyle, Lisa Hamming, the top finisher in the 200 free, Whitney Ryan, the victor in the 200 individual medley, Brittany Delgado, the winner of the 100 butterfly, Chrissy Macauley, the first-place finisher in the 100 free, and Sarah Schaffer, who won the 100 breaststroke.

Princeton competes in the Ivy League Championships from February 23-25 at Cambridge, Mass.



PHS Boys' Basketball Clears the Air, Then Produces Late-Season Surge

After the Princeton High boys' basketball team sputtered to a lopsided loss against Riverside in January, PHS head coach Dave Kosa decided it was time to clear the air.

With the defeat dropping the Little Tigers to 2-7, Kosa called a team meeting.

"It was really good," said Kosa, referring to the meeting. "The players got some things off their chest and I let them know where I was coming from. We decided on a style of play. They wanted to run more and to keep the plays as simple as possible. They also wanted to work harder."

That frank exchange of views between Kosa and his players has helped PHS produce a late surge, winning five of eight games to improve to 7-12.

"That meeting made a difference," asserted Kosa, whose club won four games all of last season. "I think that they are having a lot more fun. I see a different attitude at practice; they are focused on doing their best."

The recent return of Anthony Brown, who was sidelined by a broken leg he suffered during football season, has also made a difference for the Little Tigers.

"Not having Anthony did hurt," acknowledged Kosa. "He was our leader; we were looking for somebody to step up with him out. He's not 100 percent so we're trying to get to where he can play a quarter. He's working on his stamina but he still has one of the purest shots around."

The impact of Brown was evident in PHS' recent win 62-51 over Notre Dame, which kept the Irish from qualifying for the state tournament.

"The guys played really well that game," said Kosa, whose club had been eliminated from a chance at state tourney before the Notre Dame game.

"Anthony hit two three-pointers in the third quarter that gave us a six-point lead and some momentum. It was good to play well against a quality team that had been to the state tournament many years in a row."

Kosa has seen progress throughout the program. "The sub-varsity program has really picked up," said Kosa.

"For the overall program, this is the most victories we've had. The freshman team is 14-3 and is having a superb season. The junior varsity team has seven wins. I've done a couple of camps and we're trying to stir up interest in the community."

While the future looks bright, this year's varsity team will look to end things on a high note as it competes in the Mercer County Tournament.

PHS is slated to play at Ewing in the opening round, a rematch of a February 7 game in which the Blue Devils edged the Little Tigers 68-62 to earn the CVC Patriot Division crown.

"We're familiar with them," said Kosa, whose ninth-seeded team will play at top-seeded Trenton High in the MCT quarters on February 15 if it gets past Ewing. "It's good to be playing a team we've seen recently, we looked at a lot of film on them. I'd rather play someone like that than a team we haven't see in five weeks."

No matter what happens in the MCT, Kosa is happy that his core of seniors are seeing the fruits of their labor.

"The seniors have really bonded," said Kosa. "Ben [Guervil] and Marc [Andre] and role players like Dan Mawn and Casey Huckel have come together. They have faced adversity with Rich [Wilson] last year [lost for the season after getting wounded] and Anthony's injury this year. They are finally getting to enjoy some success."

—Bill Alden

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MIGHTY CASEY: Princeton High senior forward Casey Huckel rises up for a shot in recent action. PHS was slated to start play in the Mercer County Tournament with a game at Ewing on February 14. The ninth-seeded Little Tigers will play at top-seeded Trenton High in the MCT quarters on February 15 if they get past Ewing.

STANDING TALL: Princeton High senior center Ben Guervil, left, establishes position in the Little Tigers' recent win over Princeton Day School. With Guervil providing scoring punch inside, PHS won five of its last eight games after struggling to a 2-9 start.

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CONSUMER BUREAU

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Battle-Hardened Hun Girls' Basketball Ready for Post-Season Tourney Tests

Heading into the post-season last winter, the Hun School girls' basketball team had dropped only one game.

The Raiders went on to fall to Peddie in both the state Prep A and Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) title games to end the season with a sparkling 22-3 mark.

With this year's post-season tournaments getting underway this week, Hun would seem to be less of a threat, bringing an 18-5 record into the tourney season.

But Hun head coach Bill Holup believes his team is better prepared for a title this year despite the additional blemishes on the ledger.

"I think we are a better team than we were last year even though the record doesn't show it," asserted Holup, whose club starts play in the state Prep A tourney on February 15 and then competes in the MAPL tournament on February 17-19 at the Peddie School.

"We have better guards this year. Last year, we were a forward-oriented team. This year our guards (Amanda Sepulveda and Ali Tartacoff) can control the tempo and also hit the outside shot to open things up."

Holup's confidence also stems from the more demanding schedule he put his team through this winter.

"The bottom line is that we set up this schedule to test us," said Holup, whose club gets a good inside punch from senior Mary Stinson and sophomore Mary Stinson. "We played tough teams like Morris Catholic and Germantown Academy on the road."

The Raiders passed their latest test last Thursday as they held off Hamilton High 65-60.

"I was glad they tested us; it was better to be challenged before the tournaments," said Holup, reflecting on a night in which his club built a 41-21 halftime cushion on the way to its third straight win. "I think we got too relaxed; they are a scrappy public school team."

Hun's first tournament test comes this Wednesday when the Raiders host Blair Academy in the semifinals of the state Prep A tournament.

"When we played them the first time, they were just getting back from their holiday break," said Holup, recalling his team's 76-60 win over the Buccaneers in early January.

"They hadn't played for two weeks and we were coming off of a holiday tournament. It was advantageous for us. We ran on them because we knew they wouldn't be in top shape after the break. They've been playing a lot so it will be a different game."

The ultimate test, of course, will be the anticipated battles with powerful Peddie, which has won nine straight Prep A crowns.

"We've been down this road before," said Holup, whose club lost a 58-53 heartbreaker to Peddie in the regular season, squandering a double-digit first half lead.

"We want to play Peddie twice. The girls are definitely up for the challenge; they are more confident. The first time we played them, we had them on the ropes. We know we can beat them; we just have to be more consistent."

—Bill Alden

TITLE SEARCH: Hun School senior star Mary Stinson, center, leaps high for a rebound in action earlier this season. This week, Stinson and her teammates will be in the hunt for two titles as they compete in the state Prep A and Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) tournaments. The Raiders start play in the Prep A tourney when they host Blair on February 15. The MAPL tourney will take place from February 17-19 at the Peddie School.

(Photo by Bill Alden/U. Sports Action)

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SAVING GRACE: Stuart senior goalie Nathalie Verhaegen, middle, brushes aside a puck in recent action. Last Wednesday, Verhaegen made 38 saves against Morristown-Beard in the state Prep semifinals but it wasn't enough as Stuart fell 7-0 to the powerful Crimson. (Photo by Bill Alden N. Sportsfotos)

Verhaegen's Clutch Play in Goal Kept Stuart Hockey Competitive

Nathalie Verhaegen was under fire all game long last Wednesday as the Stuart County Day ice hockey team battled powerful Morristown-Beard in the state Prep semifinals.

With Stuart missing a defenseman from its already undermanned squad, senior goaltender Verhaegen was truly the last line of defense as she faced 45 shots on the evening.

Although Verhaegen stopped the vast majority of the volleys that came her way, top-seeded Mo-Beard managed to get seven past her in earning a 7-0 victory.

Afterward, a tired Verhaegen was able to smile through the fatigue as she reflected on her busy night.

"I love it," said Verhaegen, referring to the barrage of shots she faced against Mo-Beard. "If it was anything less, I'd probably get bored. It's such a challenge, my defense was great."

Even though Stuart hasn't won a game this season, Verhaegen has relished being the team's last line of defense. "I like to think that I get a chance to be the heart of the team," asserted Verhaegen. "I'm always on the ice. I love to be there for the girls and I know they are always there for me."

Verhaegen has put in time over the off season to make sure that she will be there every minute for her teammates.

"I was at the Dartmouth camp last summer," said Verhaegen, who has gone to several camps over her high school career. "I played with guys last summer in a league at Ice Land and that was a really big help. They play really fast and they shoot pretty well."

As a result of Verhaegen's diligence, she has refined her technique in the net. "I'd like to think that I've gotten better at the angles, trying to stay up when a shooter is coming," explained Verhagen. "I've also been getting out to challenge breakaways which is probably the hardest thing to learn. I've had some lucky reflex saves where my hand just got in the way of the puck."

But Verhaegen has probably made her biggest strides in the mental aspect of her demanding position. "It's such a challenge with almost an immediate answer," added Verhaegen. "You did well or you didn't. For a few seconds after I give up a goal, I think about what I did and what I could've done better. After that it's totally behind you."

Stuart head coach Greg Bugge was left nearly speechless as he contemplated Verhaegen's performance last Wednesday and over the course of her career.

"I don't know what to say about Nathalie," said Bugge with a grin. "She has been our anchor the last three years. We are going to miss her next year. She's got the athletic ability and she's incredibly competitive."

In Bugge's view, it is Verhaegen's coolness under fire that sets her apart. "What I like about Nathalie is that she is able to shake things off," asserted Bugge. "She gives up a goal, she is upset for a moment and then it's OK. Then she'll stop a breakaway; she'll do whatever she needs to do."

Bugge saw that same resourcefulness in his team collectively. "I think they played hard all game; they didn't quit," said Bugge, whose team lost 6-3 to Hill last Friday in its season finale.

"I think the effort was outstanding. We had only three defensemen and Mary Jane [Sweetland], Liz [Collecchio], and Haley [Meagher] really stepped up. They busted everything out there; they didn't leave anything behind on the ice."

Sophomore forward Megan Fitzpatick epitomized Stuart's intensity in the Mo-Beard loss. "Meg was phenomenal to watch skate today," added Bugge. "We were down to nine skaters and Megan's effort today was nothing short of spectacular. She skated, she hustled. She rushed the net when we got opportunities."

The gritty play of the team's seniors, Verhaegen, Sweetland, Noha Ghusson, Christa Goeke, Hilary Kinka, and Beki Martin set the tone for the younger players.

"They were truly my leaders," asserted Bugge, referring to his seniors. "They showed what it means to play with heart. I think when you take players like Noha, Mary Jane, Nathalie, Christa, Hilary, and Beki and put them out and the effort they put out, it's got to rub off.

Verhaegen, for her part, believes that the effort has been worth it even though the team went winless this winter.

"It is a tough record but we never give up," said Verhaegen "I think what really makes the program special is that everyone is here because they love the game and not every team can say that."

And it has been special for Stuart to have Verhaegen as its last line of defense the past three seasons

—Bill Alden

PDS Girls' Hockey Falls in Prep Semis, Aims to Excel in WIHLMA Tournament

In late January, the Princeton Day School girls' hockey team traveled up to the Pingry School and cruised to a 6-1 victory.

When the teams met last Wednesday at the Lawrenceville School rink in the state Prep semifinals, it didn't take long for PDS to realize that it was in for a much tougher test.

Midway through the first period, PDS found itself trailing 2-0 and in danger of being on the wrong side of a rout. Showing character, however, the Panthers got on the board in the waning minutes of the period on a goal by Jessica Cellars.

In the second period, the PDS defense tightened and Cellars struck again as she converted a sweet feed from Emily Cook.

PDS took the lead with 11:46 left in the third period on a looping slapshot by Katy Briody from the point. Just four minutes for qualifying for the state final, the Panthers surrendered a goal which forced the game into overtime.

In the extra session, the Panthers put the heat on and generated several scoring chances. But failing to cash in, PDS' championship dream ended with 1:11 left in overtime as Pingry found the back of the net to pull out a 4-3 win.

Afterward, a frustrated PDS head coach John Cook praised his team's effort while acknowledging its failure to cash in on opportunities.

"Our girls worked hard, I have to hand it to them," said Cook, whose team outshot Pingry 20-11.

"The puck just didn't bounce our way. It was a tough loss even if it was fun for the fans to watch. I'm disappointed we didn't come out on top."

The Panthers' sluggish start clearly put them behind the eight-ball. "We came out a little slow," said Cook. "It took a while for us to get going. Pingry played well, they skated hard the whole game. Our girls picked it up in the second period and made it a close game."

Even when PDS pulled ahead, Cook knew his team was hardly out of the woods. "It was a tight game," added Cook. "I was concerned all the way through."

In order to improve, the Panthers need to go full throttle all the way through. "One thing we've learned is that you have to be ready to go full speed right out of the starting blocks," said Cook.

Last Saturday, the Panthers produced a quicker start as they scored two first period goals on the way to a 3-3 tie with Shady Side Academy (Pa.) to move to 7-10-3 on the season.

"Part of it is experience," said Cook, whose team will play Princeton High on February 16 at Ice Land before hosting Morristown-Beard on February 18 in the Women's Interscholastic Hockey League of the Mid-Atlantic (WIHLMA) semifinals. PDS will play its home ice a day later in either a WIHLMA consolation game or title game depending on Saturday's result.

"The girls have to get their bodies in the right position; when the puck is coming by to really get some belt into the shot. We didn't get much on some shots and we missed the net a couple of times."

—Bill Alden

COLD COMFORT: Princeton Day School junior star Katy Briody races up the ice in recent action. Last Wednesday, Briody notched a key third period goal against Pingry in the state Prep semis but the Panthers went on to lose 4-3 in overtime. PDS, now 7-10-3, plays Princeton High on February 16 at Ice Land before hosting Morristown-Beard on February 18 in the Women's Interscholastic Hockey League of the Mid-Atlantic (WIHLMA) semifinals. PDS will play a day later in either a WIHLMA consolation game or title game depending on Saturday's result. (Photo by Bill Alden N. Sportsfotos)

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MAKING HER MARK: Stuart Country Day senior star Kathryn Kitts, right, looks for an opening in action earlier this season. Last Saturday, Kitts passed the 1,000-point mark in her career as she scored 32 points to lead Stuart to a 60-50 win over Gill St. Bernard's in the state Prep B tournament. Kitts, who is averaging 21.2 points a game, will look to keep up her hot play as Stuart travels to Rutgers Prep on February 15 for a Prep B semifinal contest.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

HUN

Boys' Basketball: The one-two punch of Idris Hilliard and Lance Goulbourne led Hun to 58-52 win over Our Savior New American (N.Y.) last Friday in the Prime Time Shootout at Sovereign Bank Arena. Hilliard scored a game-high 22 points with Goulbourne chipping in 16. The Raiders, now 16-7, play Blair on February 15 in the Prep A semifinals and then compete in the Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) Tournament from February 17-19 at Peddie.

Boys' Ice Hockey: Mike Williams and Peter Plumeri scored goals but it was hardly enough as Hun fell 8-2 at Princeton Day School last Friday. The Raiders, now 9-11-1, face Steinert on February 20 in the quarterfinals of the Mercer County Tournament.

Swimming: The Hun boys team placed fifth of five teams last week at the state Prep A championships while the Raider girls were 13th.

LAWRENCEVILLE

Boys' Basketball: Despite a big game from Torin Moore, Lawrenceville fell 68-50 to Peddie last Saturday in the state Prep tournament. Moore scored 16 points as the Big Red fell to 10-11 on the season. Lawrenceville competes in the Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) Tournament from February 17-19 at Peddie.

Girls' Basketball: Andrea Florl came up big as Lawrenceville upset No. 4 Montclair Kimberley 41-33 in the state Prep A tournament. Florl scored a game-high 14 points as the Big Red improved to 5-10. Lawrenceville plays at top-seeded Peddie on February 15 in the Prep A semifinals before competing in the Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) Tournament from February 17-19 at Peddie.

PHS

Boys' Hockey: Peter Teifer was the only player to find the back of the net as PHS fell 4-1 at Ridgewood last Saturday. The Little Tigers, now 12-5-2, are slated to play Notre Dame on February 16 at Mercer County Park before competing in the quarterfinals of the Mercer County Tournament on February 20.

Girls' Hockey: Carly Ray scored to give PHS a 1-1 tie with Holton Arms last Saturday in a game played at the Princeton Day School rink. Ray's goal was her fifth of the season. It came on a feed by Dee Dee Mahon, who notched her team-high ninth assist with her hand in the tally. The tie moved PHS to 6-4-5 overall and 1-3-2 in Women's Interscholastic Hockey League of the Mid-Atlantic (WIHLMA) play. As a result of the tie, the Little Tigers' were eliminated from any chance of playing in the upcoming WIHLMA playoffs. PHS will host Princeton Day School at Ice Land on February 16.

PDS

Boys' Basketball: Senior star Drew Godwin had another big game but it wasn't enough as PDS fell 57-50 to Pennington in overtime last Wednesday in the state Prep B tournament. Godwin scored 20 points with Jordan Mickens adding 12. The Panthers, now 5-15, were slated to play Steinert on February 14 in the Mercer County Tournament. If PDS wins that game, it will face the winner of the WW/P-S-WW/P-N matchup in the MCT quarters on February 15.

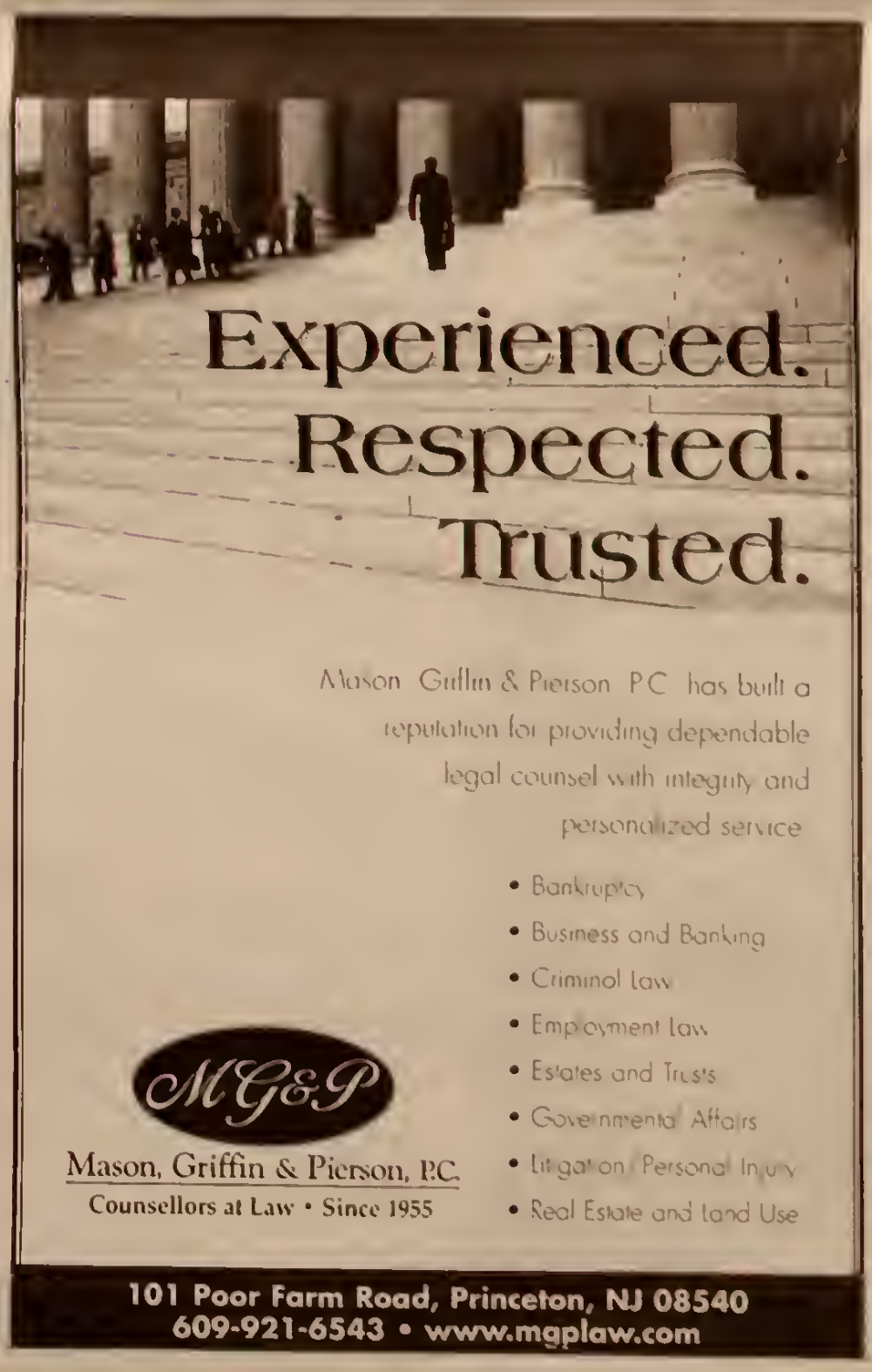
Girls' Basketball: Unable to get its offense going, PDS fell 58-19 to Rutgers Prep last Thursday in the state Prep B tournament. Hannah Epstein scored 10 points for the Panthers, who ended their season with a 6-17 mark.

Boys' Hockey: Justin Mimmo and Eric Czapka led the way as PDS routed cross-town rival Hun 8-2 last Friday. Mimmo scored two goals and had four assists while Czapka had two goals and two assists. The Panthers, now 14-6-1, host Morristown-Beard on February 15 in the state Prep championship game and then have a home game with the Germantown Academy on February 22.

MAILBOX CORRESPONDENTS: Please double-space your typewritten letters. It enables us to scan them electronically.

COOKING UP HISTORY: Princeton High senior star Erin Cook fires a jump shot in a game earlier this season. Last Thursday, Cook passed the 1,000-point mark in her career as she scored 22 points to lead PHS to a 46-37 win at Highland Park. Cook, who is averaging 20.2 points a game this season, is just the third Little Tiger girls' player to achieve that milestone. PHS, now 10-12, was slated to play at Notre Dame on February 14 in the Mercer County Tournament. If the Little Tigers win that game, they will play on February 15 in the MCT quarterfinals against the winner of the Trenton-Ewing first round matchup.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)



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LOCAL SPORTS

PGSA Softball Clinics To Start February 15

The Princeton Girls Softball Association (PGSA) will be holding free skills clinics starting on February 15 from 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. at the Princeton High old gym.

Other clinics are slated to take place on February 22 and 27 at the same location and time. The PGSA has hired John Scheese, a veteran softball coach, umpire, and trainer, to help the players hone their skills.

For more information on the clinics and/or about registering for the upcoming PGSA season, call Paul Gray at (609) 683-5393 or log on to www.princetonlittleleague.com.

Princeton Girls' Lax Holding Registration

Princeton Girls' Lacrosse (PG Lax) is now taking registration for its upcoming spring lacrosse season.

The program, formerly run out of the Princeton Family YWCA, is now independent with the endorsement of the YWCA. PG Lax will have three team levels—3rd/4th grade, 5th/6th, and 7th/8th grade—with the season running from early March to late June. Practices will take place at Riverside School on Wednesday and Friday afternoons and on Saturday mornings. The games begin in April and are usually held on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings.

PG Lax will be led by Meredith Elwell, the director of the Tri-State Girls' Lacrosse program and a former lacrosse and field hockey star at the University of Virginia.

The registration fee is $290 which includes all club and league fees, a U. S. Lacrosse Membership and a uniform. For information forms, please send a request to Princeton girlslax@yahoo.com. For more information, please call Aaron Burt at (609) 210-1033.

Little League Tryouts February 26 at Hun

The Princeton Little League baseball spring 2006 tryouts will be held February 26 at the Hun School gym in Princeton.

All children who wish to play in the B minor, ages 7 and 8, A minor, ages 9 and 10, or Major division, ages 11 and 12, must attend. The league is open to all residents of Princeton who are between the ages of 5 and 12 as of April 30, 2006

Families who wish their children to be considered for a division above their age must make a written request to the organization to seclancy@comcast.net.

The season starts April 1 and concludes in mid June. T-Ball, ages 5 and 6, play on Saturdays. Instructional league, ages 6 and 7, is coach pitch with two games a week. To register or for more information about tryouts visit the league website at www.princetonlittleleague.com.

Princeton Travel Basketball Recent Results

The Princeton Recreation Department's Under-14 boys' travel basketball team defeated North Brunswick last weekend in a seesaw game 46-41. The victory lifted Princeton to 11-6, earning it a share of first place in the North Brunswick League. Seth Sherman scored 15 points to lead Princeton with Skye Ettin adding 11 points and Josh Gordon contributing nine points, seven rebounds, and six assists.

The Princeton U-12 boys team lost to Woodbridge 49-24 in a North Brunswick league game. Devon Holiday Black scored six points for Princeton with Mike Manley adding five.

Mercer Rowing Club Holding Ergathon

The Mercer Junior Rowing Club (MJRC) is holding its fourth annual Ergathon on February 25 at the Center Court of the Quakerbridge Mall in Lawrence Township.

The Ergathon, which is also a fundraising event for the program, will be held from noon-3 p.m. The high school athletes, who will be divided into two teams, will compete against each other on ergometer rowing machines in the center court.

There will also be opportunities to learn how to row from Mercer Junior Rowing Club athletes and coaches. In addition, U.S. Olympians and medal winners will be present along with local dignitaries.

"The Ergathon is an opportunity for young people to discover the sport for the first time," said Mercer Junior Head Rowing Club Coach Sean McCourt. "It also gives our club a chance to demonstrate the amazing ability and talent of our athletes."

The club, in its fifth season, trains at the Finn M.W. Caspersen Rowing Center on Mercer Lake in West Windsor Township. It was created by the Princeton National Rowing Association (formerly known as the Princeton International Regatta Association) in 2001 to increase the accessibility of rowing for high school students in the Mercer County area.

MJRC is open to all high school students in the Mercer County area whose schools do not have their own rowing teams. In addition to the MJRC, the Hun School, the Lawrenceville School, the Peddie School, and the U.S. National Team also train at the center.

In addition to the youth program, the club also features an adult rowing (masters) program. The fall season finished with both men and women competing in the Masters division races at the Head of the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia. The program is in progress with winter training and will continue with morning sessions in the spring with fitness training on the ergometers and rowing on Mercer Lake. The program is open to experienced rowers and those without experience who would like to learn to row.

For more information on the Ergathon or other upcoming events, or to find out how to enroll in the youth or adult rowing programs, please visit the web site at www.rowpmj.org or call Sean McCourt at (609) 799-7100.

FALL GUY: Princeton Amateur Wrestling Society (PAWS) star Canaan Bethea, right, celebrates with PAWS head coach Mark McLaughlin after being named the outstanding wrestler in the Mercer County Middle School tournament earlier this month. Bethea scored two impressive pins in the 147-pound weight class at the competition as he led PAWS to a third-place finish in the team standings.

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OBITUARIES

Peter Benchley

continued from page one

Jaws, and the national phenomenon ignited by Steven Spielberg's filmed adaptation, Mr. Benchley devoted his life to oceanic conservation, underwater archeology, and produced award-winning marine conservation films for the New England Aquarium.

A former speechwriter for President Lyndon Johnson, Mr. Benchley was a reporter with the Washington Post and an editor at Newsweek prior to his career as a novelist.

Having grown up in Nantucket, where he spent a large portion of his childhood in the water, Mr. Benchley thought of the ocean as an earthly place more mysterious and lesser known than outer space, as he would note in speeches, according to his wife, Borough Councilwoman Wendy Benchley in an interview Monday.

It was through his speeches, she added, that Mr. Benchley would exhibit his passion for the subterranean world. And while he captivated his audience through the shark mania created by *Jaws*, his speeches documented his Cousteau-like endeavors. His passion also produced a series of novels depicting "this vast place" like The Deep and The Island.

"He was just brilliant; he would have everybody laughing telling these wonderful stories," Ms. Benchley said, recalling her husband's accounts of his personal experiences.

"He was an inspired speaker that way—he wouldn't lecture; he would pull them in," she said. Mr. Benchley's oratorical skills eventually made him a spokesperson for the Environmental Defense Fund and also led to his doing work with WildAid, a group that promotes shark awareness and helps curb the killing of sharks for their fins.

When Mr. Benchley found himself without a job after Lyndon Johnson decided not to run for a second term in the 1968 elections, he wanted to relocate to a place with "a heart and a soul," Ms. Benchley said. And it had to be within commuting distance to New York City. Since Princeton was then out of the Benchleys' price range, Pennington Borough became the young family's home.

Having settled down with an old typewriter at the Blackwell Furnace Supply Store in Pennington, Mr. Benchley began writing his tale of a great white shark terrorizing beachgoers.

According to Ms. Benchley, her husband weathered the din of the furnace store like an old pro. Having worked in the crazed newsroom of Newsweek, there was little that could faze him, hearing-wise, that is, she added.

"Believe it or not, we didn't have enough money for an office and we had two little kids at home, and no space or anyplace for him to write.

"He had a desk right in the middle of this place where they were making furnaces—'bang! bang! bang!'—and it didn't bother him."

That was where *Jaws* came to life. In fact, the first pages of the book are essentially the same as the first draft, Ms. Benchley said. "They never were changed."

The success of *Jaws* "opened up the world to us," Ms. Benchley said, but added that the sudden change did not impact the family. "We weren't kids" when the book was written, Ms. Benchley said. "He wrote *Jaws* after we had done a bit of living."

But the success did present the opportunity to travel as Mr. Benchley took on assignments with National Geographic that would further deepen his fascination with the ocean.

Mr. Benchley has said in past interviews that he never intended to vilify the great white shark, as the dangers had already been known, and he has always emphasized the fictional element of his novels. In fact, Ms. Benchley said, "hundreds" of fan letters have been sent to the author from people who have pursued marine biology because of Benchley's literary canon.

"Maybe for the first generation of *Jaws*, the book just scared them, but for the next generation, it just intrigued them and made them want to learn more about these remarkable creatures," Ms. Benchley said.

Mr. Benchley's 2002 work, *Shark Trouble*, has been used in various classes because it examines personal experiences while addressing issues like conservation, global warming, and depletion of the ocean.

For Ms. Benchley, herself an accomplished environmentalist and former Mercer County freeholder who has served on the Princeton Regional Planning Board from 1978 to 1984, and serves today after being re-appointed in 1999, the *Jaws* experience "opened so many doors for us" in ocean exploration.

"I laugh sometimes when friends ask about the hotels of some island or country and I'd say 'I was underwater the whole time—I have no idea.'"

For their 40th wedding anniversary in 2004, the couple fulfilled a longtime dream of swimming with the great white sharks in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of San Diego.

"He was a good friend, and an incredible father and husband," Ms. Benchley said.

Peter Benchley was born May 8, 1940 in New York City, and is the grandson of humorist Robert Benchley, and the son of writer Nathaniel Benchley. In addition to his wife, Wendy, Mr. Benchley is survived by his brother, Nathaniel, and three children, Tracy Benchley Turner, Clayton Benchley, and Christopher Benchley.

—Matthew Hersh

Ethan C. Crimmins

Ethan Custis Crimmins, 42, of Seattle, Wash., formerly of Princeton, died February 10 in his sleep from respiratory complications.

The son of Marcy Crimmins of Princeton and James Crimmins of Santa Barbara, Calif., he grew up in Princeton. He was a graduate of The Hotchkiss School in 1981 and a graduate of the University of Colorado in 1985.

He is survived by his parents; his wife, Jo Crimmins; four sisters, Samantha Smith of Madison, Page Seyfried of Short Hills, Tory Brangham of Montclair, and Courtney Crimmins of New York City; and many lifelong friends in New York and Los Angeles.

In work and life, he combined his passions for music and travel. He had recently begun work on a new digital music project at Amazon.com.

A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at Trinity Church this Saturday, February 18 at 11 am.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Save the Children at savethechildren.org, or Save the Children, 54 Wilton Road, Westport, Conn. 06880

Peter H. Young Sr.

Peter Harold Young Sr., 67, of Princeton, died suddenly on February 5 at Princeton Medical Center.

Born in Savannah, Ga., he moved to Philadelphia at an early age.

He worked with his father in the family business before coming to Princeton in 1958.

An entrepreneur, he ran many businesses: The Koffee Kup restaurant, Princeton Laundromat, Leigh Avenue Convenience Store, a taxi service, and Pete Young's Garbage Disposal. He was also a part owner of Marv's Lounge.

He was a member of Teague and Hines Ball Team, Corinthian Square Club, Gentlemen of Sports, and a player, coach, and manager of Youngin's Girls Softball Team and The Girls Koffee Kup Softball Team. He was also a member of Aaron No. 9 Masonic Temple, Past Master; a member of Aaron No. 8 Order of Eastern Stars, Past Patron; a sergeant of arms event coordinator of Tee 2 Green Golf Club; and president of the Trenton Chapter of the National United Merchants Beverage Association.

He was predeceased by his parents, John and Odessa Young; his wife of 53 years, Eureka Wilson-Young; a brother, James; and two sisters, Katherine Young and Beverly Brockington. He is survived by six daughters, Shirlynn Williams of Ewing, Sabrina El-Amin of Trenton, Renetta Gutridge of Red Bank, JuDawn Young-Ntl of Hamilton, Kathleen Banks of Neptune, and Oweeta Patterson of Trenton; four sons, Joseph Wilson of Hamilton, Tyrone Maples of Neptune, Peter H. Young Jr. of Ewing, and Freddie A. Young Sr. of Trenton; four adopted daughters, Olivia Rowell, Jocelyn Highsmith, Charmion Highsmith, and Georgette Highsmith, all of Trenton; a sister, Mamie Rainey of Philadelphia; two brothers, Eddie of Philadelphia and John of Princeton; 42 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and a longtime companion, Marcie Highsmith of Princeton.

The funeral was February 11 at Shiloh Baptist Church in Trenton, with the Rev. Jerry Foreman of Morning Star Church of God, Princeton, officiating. Burial was at Princeton Cemetery.

RELIGION

The Rev. Gloria E. White-Hammond, M.D., co-Pastor of Bethel A.M.E. Church in Boston (Jamaica Plains), Mass., will be the guest speaker this Sunday, February 19, Woman's Day, at 11 a.m. at **Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church**, 170 Witherspoon Street.

Dr. White-Hammond has a long history of involvement in community service. She is the founder of and consultant to the church-based creative writing and mentoring ministry called "Do the Write Thing" for high-risk black adolescent females. She is also the co-convener of The Red Tent Group with Rabbi Elaine Zecher of Temple Israel, which brings together Christian and Jewish women for small group Torah/Bible study.

Dr. White-Hammond's work as a humanitarian has achieved global impact. She has worked as a medical missionary in several African countries including Botswana, Cote D'Ivoire, and South Africa. In 2001 she traveled to southern Sudan where she was involved in obtaining the freedom of 6,700 women and children who were enslaved during the two-decades-long civil war. In 2002 she co-founded My Sister's Keeper, a humanitarian women's group that partners with women of Sudan in their efforts toward reconciliation and reconstruction of their communities. MSK has developed two grinding mill projects and supports My Sister's Keeper School for Girls in Gogrial County. Since 2001 she has traveled to war-torn Sudan seven times, most recently into Darfur in western Sudan.

The **Nassau Presbyterian Church**, in celebration of the 250-year Presbyterian presence in Princeton, will present The People's Verse Speaking Choir of Witherspoon Presbyterian Church this Sunday, February 19 at 6 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public.

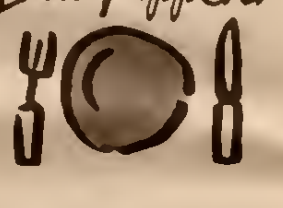
The Choir, under the direction of Cecelia B. Hodges, Ph.D., will present a concert of secular, liturgical, and African-American works in the spoken form.

Established in 1986, the initial mission of the Choir was to celebrate African-American literature through study and performance, requiring that considerable attention be given to the meaning, context, and history of the readings. The Choir reads each third Sunday at the Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church worship service and includes Biblical, secular, and historical material. In addition, the Choir has presented secular programs for churches and organizations that have included Ewing, Harlingen, and Kingston Presbyterian Churches, Shiloh Baptist Church in Trenton, Princeton University Chapel, Black Entertainment Television, and the Garden State Mall. Members from Nassau Presbyterian Church joined the Choir for the October 2, 2005 opening worship service at McCarter Theatre.

Dr. Hodges was educated at Hunter College, Columbia University, and Northwestern University. She has received certificates in theatre from the University of Ghana and the University of Birmingham, England. Her one-woman show, *A Woman for All Seasons*, is offered in schools, colleges, the Princeton Public Library, and abroad.

Nassau Presbyterian Church is located at 61 Nassau Street.

Bon Appetit



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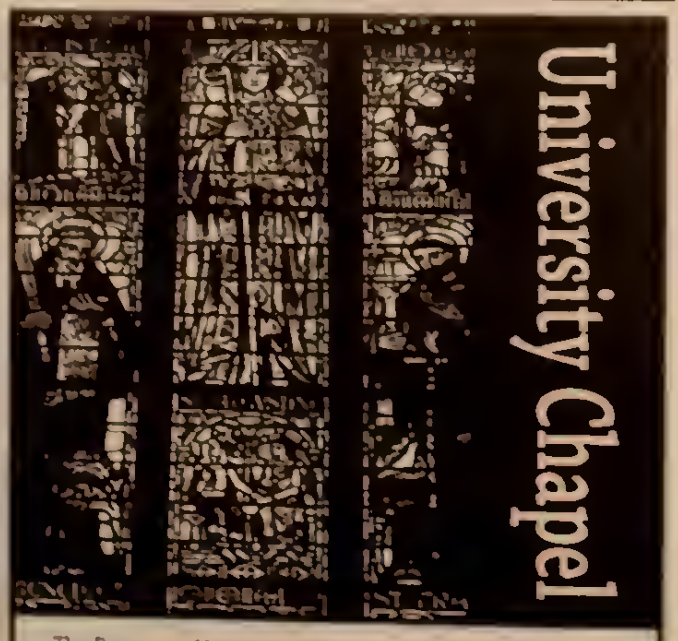

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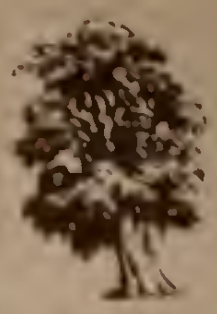

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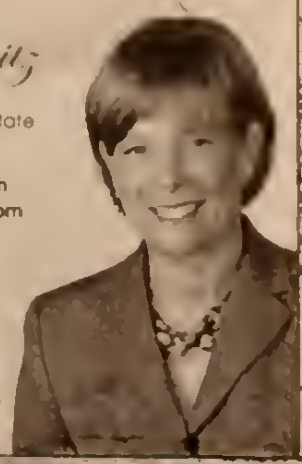

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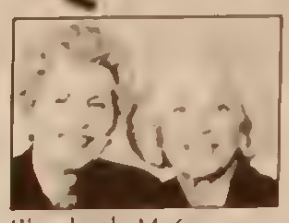

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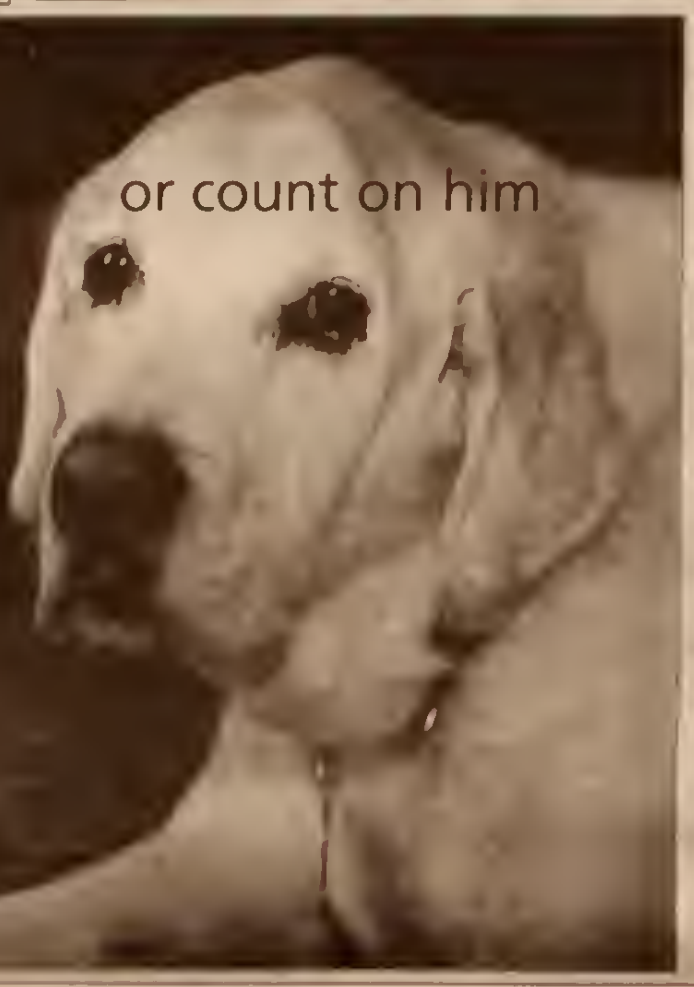

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Marketed by Kimberly Steinnagel

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP — Desirable Richmond model w/large, open floor plan and the privacy of 2+ wooded acres. This great home features a recently renovated, designer kitchen w/pantry; 2-story foyer & family room; 2nd staircase; lavish master suite w/home office; and a huge basement for storage or future finishing. Located only 15 min. from Princeton, major highways & NYC transportation. Excellent top-rated Montgomery Twp. Schools. **$1,089,000**

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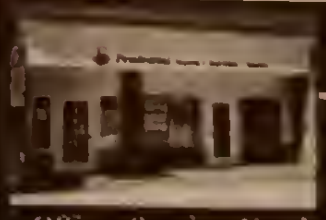

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Princeton Township *Impressive 16-room, 10,000 SF colonial on 5 wooded acres w/loads of extras including 3 FPs, 6 bdrms, 6½ baths, steam shower, finished basement w/gym & media room, 3-car garage. $3,499,000.*

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Are you ready for a change in career? We are ready for you. Join our winning team. Gloria Nelson GMAC Real Estate. Ask for Linda (609) 921-2600

01-25-tf

LANDSCAPING ASSISTANT

Varied nurturing work. Good pay, flexible hours. No mowing. English required. Please call (609) 683-4013

02-01-3

BABYSITTER NEEDED

For 7 month old & 3 yr old to do fun things around town. References & good driving record required. student preferred. Very flexible hours. Call Jacqui (312) 213-2626

02-08-21

P/T HOUSEKEEPER:

Cleaning, laundry, ironing & chores for retired University couple. Pleasant home, good pay, no benefits. 15 hrs/week (hours & time negotiable). Background & references too. PO Box 603, Kingston, NJ 08528-603

02-15

RESTAURANT

High volume Princeton area restaurant has immediate openings for

HOST/HOSTESS & BARTENDERS

FT/PT. Apply in person. Tiger's Tale 1290 Rt. 206, Montgomery, NJ 609-924-0262

ANALYTICAL CHEMIST

Looking for P/T-F/T assignment- Short/Long term. Sample Preparation, GC, HPLC, AA, ICP, MALDI TOF, UV/VIS/IR, FTIR, Amino Acid and DNA Sequencing, Thermal Analysis and other.

Email: merriam@patmedia.net

REAL ESTATE/OFFICE ASSISTANT

Part time position available
(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)
to help with newspaper production.
Must have great interpersonal skills, typing, and an excellent eye for detail.
Please email resume to:
claudia.spence@towntopics.com

PRINCETON REGIONAL SCHOOLS

Princeton, NJ 08540

2005-2006 VACANCIES

Effective: 3/1/06—6/30/06

High School
CLERK-TYPIST - Main Office
Middle School
CLERK-TYPIST (10-month position)

Please mail/fax letter of interest & resume to:
Lewis Goldstein, Assistant Superintendent,
Princeton Regional Schools, 25 Valley Road,
Princeton, NJ 08540.
Phone: (609) 806-4207 Fax: (609) 806-4227

CLOSING DATE: February 21, 2006

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MULTICULTURAL EMPLOYER
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ADMISSIONS AND STUDENT SERVICES COORDINATOR

Berlitz International, Inc. the global leader in language and communication services invites applications for the position of Admissions and Student Services in our LLS Division. LLS is the world's leading provider of intensive campus based ESL instruction.

This position reports to the Director of Admissions. The Admissions and Student Services Coordinator is responsible for enrolling students into the LLS Admissions database and then providing the student with all necessary documents required to secure lawful entry into this country for the purpose of study at an LLS Center. This position also serves as a two-way information conduit between the student and our Center staff for the purpose of arranging pre arrival housing and airport pickup services upon request.

Qualified Candidates must have a college degree or equivalent experience. Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Outlook and strong writing proofreading, good organizational skills, attention to detail with the ability to prioritize tasks in a fast paced environment. Must be able to work well as a team member under pressure to meet established deadlines. Fluency in another language desirable but not required.

You may fax your resume to (609) 514-3450 or email your resume, which must include a cover letter with salary requirements to cmiller@lls.com. EOE M/F/D/V

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FREELANCE WRITERS NEEDED

Town Topics has an immediate opening in its editorial department for a reporter to write news and feature stories.

This is a permanent part time position with competitve pay.

Please send resume to:
Lynn Smith, Managing Editor,
e-mail: lynn.smith@towntopics.com,
or phone: (609) 924-2200.

Town Topics

An Equal Opportunity Employer
4 Mercer Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

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Real Estate Broker, LLC

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An indelible part of Princeton's Jugtown Historic Preservation District, The Captain's House, stands as a fine example of 1800's Georgian Federal architecture. Past owners personalized the property with their own sensibilities, most notably the retired Virginia sea captain who added the three tiered balcony in 1860 giving the house its designated name. An architect versed in historical rehabilitation recently saw to the restoring of the building's facade, enhancing its style, and to the renovation of its interior. Now, 9' ceilings, gleaming oak and wide plank pine floors, deep set windows, and wide French doors create a light and gracious living environment. The living room has a fireplace with Adam style mantel and wide pocket doors to the dining room with custom cabinetry. Adjacent is a charming study opening to a beautifully landscaped yard with new blue stone patio and walkway. The handsome kitchen features an eat in area with fire place, breakfast bar, glass front maple cabinetry, ceramic tile backsplash and a convenient back stair. Beyond the kitchen is a back entry with closet, a bedroom/office with French doors to the new patio, and a bath. Random width pine plank floors unite the two upper levels. On the second floor, the master bedroom, with fireplace, has a large updated bath. Two additional bedrooms, a bath and laundry bay complete this level. The third floor has two bedrooms and a handsome new bath. The Captain's House is a residence that is unique in its history, architecture and charm.

Marketed by Pamela Parsons

609 921 1050
FOUR NASSAU STREET
PRINCETON NJ

Exclusive Affiliate of
CHRISTIE'S
GREAT ESTATES

The street most admired in Riverside.

A CLASSIC HOME built to appeal to generations. Boasting features coveted by discriminating buyers who enjoy generous space for entertaining, a library, family or great room to stretch out in, and country size kitchen. Enjoy the fine detail and quality construction of this William Thompson designed Hunt and Augustine constructed gem. A front to back living room with cozy fireplace and French doors opens to a patio. The formal dining room is positioned off a welcoming foyer. The second level continues the hardwood flooring through five bedrooms. A walk up attic provides a fabulous opportunity to design a master suite with loft for the buyer looking to do a bit of upgrading. 3½ baths and full laundry on the first floor. Riverside is a coveted neighborhood close to Princeton University, shopping, schools and transportation. Nestled on a beautiful lot graced by lovely trees and gardens, this is the perfect opportunity to live in luxury with every amenity of a wonderful community. **Please visit our open house this SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1 - 4 PM. DIR:** Nassau To Riverside, Left Prospect, Left Castle Howard To #47.

PRT0706 **Marketed by Susan Gordon** **$1,170,000**

Markham Square town home.

A HILLIER DESIGNED town home in a special location in Princeton Boro for a buyer who is looking for in-town convenience and a true Princeton lifestyle. Well constructed four level all brick home boasts a formal living room with fireplace, cathedral ceiling and slider out to a garden patio. The second level features a dining area overlooking the living room, a powder room, an efficient galley kitchen and a cozy family room with access to a balcony. Three bedrooms comprise the third level including the master bedroom and two full baths. A basement with storage, laundry room plus a two car garage encompasses the lower levels.

PRT0708 **Marketed by Susan Gordon** **$675,000**

Desirable Liberty Green.

SOPHISTICATION, ambiance, and style all blend masterfully in this lovely four bedroom home. Located in desirable Liberty Green in Lawrenceville—central to shopping, transportation, and downtown Princeton—you won't be disappointed. Upon entry you will be immediately impressed with the clean contemporary feel of gleaming hardwood floors in the living and dining rooms that extends into and includes the family room. Custom touches such as chair rail and lighting enhancements complete the look, offering excellent visual appeal. Tastefully upgraded kitchen. Arguably the best layout of all the models, works well for family and entertaining. A home not to be missed!

PRT0707 **Marketed by William Chulamanis** **$519,900**

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